

2016-2017 Lake County Grand Jury

Final Report

June 30, 2017



**Grand Jury Art Contest First Place Winner
Age Group 13-15
Evelyn Allsup, Age 13**

Table of Contents

Introduction

Letter from Presiding Judge of the Superior Court.....	5
Letter from the Foreperson of the Civil Grand Jury	7
Grand Jury History and Qualifications	9
Submission of Complaints	11
2016-2017 Grand Jury Roster	13
Responses to Findings and Recommendations	14

Final Reports by Committee

Budget and Finance

\$50,000+ Abatement Reimbursement Ignored	17
Taxpayers Potentially Lose \$Millions\$ on Real Estate Investments.....	21
200 + County Properties Need Management	27

Government Services

The Road Conditions in the City of Clearlake	45
Has anybody seen a Tax Lien Sale recently?.....	51

Health and Human Services

Inadequate Staffing of County Behavioral Health.....	57
Social Services Guardianship Program.....	65

Planning and Public Works

Why Do We Pay Those #*!@ Rates?	69
Lake County Not Fully Prepared For ZIKA Virus	85
How High Will The Water Rise?	95

Public Safety

Mandated Inspections and Other Law Enforcement Facilities	103
Hill Street Blues	105
Juvenile Hall	107

Public Services

Who Cares About Animals?	113
Lake County Recycling.....	117

Grand Jury Appendix

Grand Jury Application.....	125
Complaint Form	129



Superior Court of California

COUNTY OF LAKE
255 NORTH FORBES STREET
LAKEPORT, CALIFORNIA 95453

ANDREW S. BLUM
SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

(707) 263-2374 EXT 2282
FAX (707) 262-1327

June 6, 2017

Dear Members of the 2016 – 2017 Lake County Civil Grand Jury:

The submission of your final report is the result of your hard work. I have reviewed the report, and find that it complies with Title 4 of Part 2 of the California Penal Code (§§888 et seq.). I direct the clerk of the court to accept and file the final report pursuant to Penal Code §933, subd. (b).

Although there may be disagreement with some of the findings and recommendations in your thought-provoking reports, you have acted in the best interests of your community. While you have no power to enforce your recommendations, the law requires governing bodies, elected officials, and agency heads to provide meaningful responses to your findings and recommendations. Respect for your hard work and importance of your final report should also motivate meaningful responses and publicity should lead to honest debate and ultimately improve the fairness, quality, and efficiency of local government.

You volunteered a considerable amount of time as grand jurors as a great personal sacrifice. You brought the independence, experience, knowledge, and wisdom of the community to bear upon your final report. You served with dedication and diligence to make Lake County a better place.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Andrew S. Blum", is written over a horizontal line.

ANDREW S. BLUM
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court



COUNTY OF LAKE
GRAND JURY
PO Box 1078
Kelseyville, CA 95451
Telephone (707) 279-8619
Fax (707) 279-1983

June 30, 2017

The Honorable Andrew S. Blum
Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California
County of Lake
255 Forbes Street
Lakeport, CA 95453

Dear Judge Blum:

In accordance with California State Law, we respectfully submit the 2016-2017 Lake County Civil Grand Jury Final Report.

It has been an honor to be the foreperson of the Grand Jury this year. We had a wonderfully cohesive and collegial group of people on the jury who worked hard, took their investigations seriously, and did their research in great depth. They have produced an informative and thought provoking final report. I am proud of all of them!

The Grand Jury chose to sponsor an art contest again this year. We were pleased to provide an opportunity for our youth to express their creativity. The Grand Jury chose to break the entrants into age groups to make the competition more equitable. Therefore, there are *four* first place winners. We collected enough money to award every entrant a place in the final report, and a prize. The funds for the advertising, mailings and prizes for the youths came from the Grand Jury membership, not county funds.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Dontje
Foreperson
2016-2017 Lake County Grand Jury

COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY

HISTORY

The institution of the Grand Jury is of ancient origin. Its use as an instrument of government predates its introduction into our county during colonial times. It has been continued and used throughout American history.

As constituted today in the State of California, the Grand Jury is a part of the judicial branch of government – “an arm of the court”. It does not have the functions of either the legislative or executive branches, and is not a police agency. Additionally, it does not mandate policy changes. It is an examining and investigative body that makes recommendations to improve systems, procedures, and methods of operations in designated local government agencies.

In Lake County, the Grand Jury generally performs only civil functions.

ORGANIZATION

The Lake County Civil Grand Jury (Grand Jury) is composed of nineteen men and women of various backgrounds chosen from throughout Lake County.

The presiding Superior Court Judge appoints a foreperson who presides over all jury proceedings and is responsible for directing the business of the Grand Jury.

Most Grand Jury work is done by committees. The areas of focus of these committees usually includes: Environment, Juvenile Justice, Social Services, Health, Administration, Criminal Justice, Public Works, Special Districts and Public Schools.

The Grand Jury and its committees meet several times a month. They meet with county and city officials, visit county facilities, and conduct independent research on matters of interest or concern. The committees report to the full Grand Jury and conclusions are reached after discussion and study of issues. The Grand Jury may seek advice or request the services of the Lake County Counsel, District Attorney, Presiding Judge of the Superior Court, or State Attorney General.

FUNCTIONS

Watchdog Responsibilities:

The major function of the Grand Jury is to examine county and city government and special districts to ensure that their duties are being lawfully carried out. The Grand Jury reviews and evaluates procedures, methods and

systems utilized by these entities to determine whether more efficient and economical programs may be employed. The Grand Jury is also authorized to:

1. Inspect and audit books, records and financial expenditures to ensure that public funds are properly accounted for and legally spent.
2. Inspect books and records of special districts in Lake County.
3. Examine the books and records of any nonprofit organization receiving county or city funds.
4. Inquire into the conditions of jails and detention facilities.
5. Inquire into any charges of willful misconduct in an office by public officials or employees.

Response to Citizens Complaints:

The Grand Jury receives letters from citizens alleging mistreatment by officials, suspicions of misconduct or governmental inefficiencies. Anyone may ask the Grand Jury to conduct an investigation. All complaints are confidential. The jury generally limits investigations to the operations of governmental agencies, charges of wrong-doing within public agencies, or the performance of unlawful acts by public officials. Any complaints that fall into an area of criminal misconduct are referred to the District attorney. The Grand Jury cannot investigate disputes between private parties.

FINAL REPORT

At the end of its term the Grand Jury issues a Final Report, including any reports released during the year, documenting its investigations and recommendations. Copies of the Final Report are distributed to public officials, libraries, the news media, any interested parties and any entity that is the subject of one if the reports. According to law, the elected County officers must respond within sixty (60) days following the release of the Final Report. The Board of Supervisors and other public agency governing boards must respond within ninety (90) days.

The Grand Jury's Final Report summarizes the year's activities and contains its findings and recommendations for action and study. The new Grand Jury reviews the responses of the affected public agencies and the process of protection the public interest begins anew.

SUBMISSION OF COMPLAINTS

Although is it not required, complaints should first be addressed to those responsible for resolution unless it will be detrimental to the complainant.

The Lake County Grand Jury will respond to all citizens submitting complaints. The citizen may not have further acknowledgement other than their complaint was received. A Complaint Form is available in the Appendix. Additional Complaint Forms may be requested from:

**Lake County Civil Grand Jury
PO Box 1078
Kelseyville, CA 95451
(707) 279-8619**

Or on the web at <http://www.co.lake.ca.us/Government/Boards/GrandJury>

GRAND JURY SELECTION PROCESS

The court solicits applications for the Grand Jury by advertising in the local papers. An Application Form is available in the Appendix. Additional Applications may be obtained by mailing a letter with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

**Grand Jury Coordinator
255 North Forbes Street
Fourth Floor
Lakeport, CA 95453.**

Applications are also available at each Superior Court Clerk's office at the above address or at 7000 A South Center Drive, Clearlake.

Once applications have been screened and approved, they are randomly selected to be members of the Grand Jury.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR GRAND JURORS

Prospective Grand Jurors must possess the following qualifications (Penal Code 893):

1. Be a citizen of the United States, of the age of eighteen (18) years or older who shall have been a resident of the state and county for one year immediately prior to being selected.
2. Be in possession of his or her natural faculties, or ordinary intelligence, sound judgment, and fair character.
3. Possess sufficient knowledge of the English language.

A person is not legally required to serve if any of the following apply:

1. The person is serving as a trial juror in any court of this state.
2. The person has been discharged as a Grand Juror in any court of the state within one year.
3. The person has been convicted of malfeasance in office or any felony or other high crime.
4. The person is serving as an elected public officer.

Desirable qualifications for a Grand Juror include the following:

1. Have the time to make the necessary commitment. It is not uncommon to serve fifteen to twenty hours a week or more.
2. Be open-minded with concern for the positions and view of others.
3. Have the ability to work with others.
4. Have an interest in community affairs.
5. Possess investigative skills and an ability to write reports
6. Have a general knowledge of the functions, authorities and responsibilities of county and city government and other civil entities.
7. Does not pursue a personal agenda/vendetta against governmental concepts or officials.

2016-2017 Lake County Civil Grand Jury

Name	Role	City
Dick Bishop		Clearlake Oaks
Linda Peralta-Conway*		Clearlake
Dan DeBonis		Lucerne
Rosemary Dontje	Foreperson	Kelseyville
Pat Elliot	Recording Secretary	Lucerne
Grace Gault		Lucerne
Jack Gingles		Clearlake
Cliff Johnson*		Kelseyville
Toni Maier		Clearlake
Jeff Markham		Lakeport
Nanette Marschall	Administrative Secretary	Lakeport
Venn Marschall	Foreperson Pro Tem	Lakeport
Vickie Miller		Kelseyville
David Morry		Clearlake Oaks
Phil Myers		Lakeport
Kathryn Schmid		Kelseyville
Russ Schroy		Hidden Valley Lake
Rolinder Sonnier*		Lucerne
John Vance	Sergeant at Arms	Clearlake Oaks
Carol Vedder		Lakeport

*Unable to complete full term

Responses to Findings and Recommendations

In past responses to the Final Reports submitted by the Grand Jury, the jury and general public has at times found it difficult to fully understand what has been written.

The 2016-2017 Grand Jury submits the following format to be used in responding to the reports in the hopes all peoples reading this Final Report can fully appreciate what the county is doing. (PC §933.05). This is a format that has been used by the Board of Supervisors in responding to past reports and has worked very well.

Thank you.

Name or Report: _____

Finding or Recommendations #: _____

- ☐ **AGREE, has been implemented**
- ☐ **AGREE, will be implemented within: _____**
- ☐ **NEUTRAL, Requires further analysis to be completed within _____**
- ☐ **DISAGREE, will not be implemented. Explanation: _____**

Budget and Finance



Grand Jury Art Contest First Place Winner ages 16-18
Cassidy Holmes Age 17

\$50,000+ Abatement Reimbursement Ignored

Summary:

In 2010, due to stormy conditions, a crane fell off a barge into Clear Lake (lake). The construction firm admitted to not having the financial resources to remove the crane from the lake. Lake County (County) followed its nuisance abatement process and engaged a different contractor to remove the crane in February 2011. The total removal cost minus the salvage value of the crane was \$55,906. The 2016-2017 Lake County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) found that neither the code enforcement officials nor the Board of Supervisors (BOS) took any action to recover the costs until 2016 some five years later.

Among the Recommendations, the Grand Jury asks that the BOS determine collections responsibilities and assign appropriate disciplinary actions.



Figure 1 Crane on Barge



Figure 2: Sunken Crane

Background:

In 2010, a resident of Windflower Point in the County obtained a permit and hired a construction company to repair and modify a pier at their residence. To accomplish this task, the construction company moved a barge with a crane on it next to the existing pier at the residence. Very windy conditions caused the barge to list and caused the crane to fall into the lake [See Figures 1 and 2]. An unknown person notified county officials of the incident.

One County official thought that leaving the crane in the lake would be a viable solution to the problem since it posed no threat to the public and could be a habitat for fish. In order to leave the crane submerged in the lake all fluids and hazardous materials would have to be removed. The final decision made by the BOS was to remove the crane from the lake. The crane operator admitted to not having the financial ability or adequate insurance coverage to remove the crane.

A removal contractor hired by the County accomplished the removal of the crane in February of 2011. The removal contractor used two barges owned by the County and built the necessary equipment to remove the crane [Figure 3]. The County abatement fund provided \$59,945.07 for the cost for the removal of the crane. The

County recovered \$4,039.00 of this amount by selling the recovered crane for scrap metal.



Figure 3: Crane being removed

Lake County Code Chapter 13 outlines the process for abatements in the County. The department in charge of abatements uses this procedure often for abatements on land. Another county department, which is in charge of issues on the lake, was assigned to the crane sinking. The County official was not experienced in the abatement procedures.

The County followed a portion of the Chapter 13 abatement procedure to notify the crane operator of his responsibility to remove the crane from the lake. The final steps in the abatement process to collect payment from the crane operator were never completed. The County ignored the process to collect payment for five years. The crane operator never received a bill from the County for repayment of the crane abatement costs.

The BOS revisited the issue in 2016, because of the participation in the local elections by the crane operator. The BOS approved a repayment plan. The owner of the crane accepted the plan in July of 2016.

Methodology:

- The Grand Jury held interviews with members of the BOS, Code Enforcement, County Counsel and Department of Water Resources.
- The Grand Jury examined news stories from the Lake County Record Bee, Lake County News and websites for State and County agencies.

Discussion and Analysis:

On or around November 2, 2010, the property owner hired the crane operator to replace a boatlift at their residence at Windflower Point on Clear Lake.

On November 23, 2010, the crane operator's crane (which he had been using on this job) sank and the push boat overturned in choppy water due to bad weather. The crane operator failed to contact any authorities to report the sinking.

On November 24, 2010, Water Resources Department received an anonymous call informing them of what had occurred. The enforcement official notified the proper authorities to address any leaking fuels on the lake.

Around December 21, 2010, the crane operator was able to get the barge righted and the boat removed from the scene. On this date, the lake was at 3.51 Rumsey and given the depth of the lake at that location, the crane was in 40 feet of water. The Department of Water Resources stated that the crane operator indicated at this time he had no money to pay for the recovery of the crane.

The Department of Water Resources started the process of abatement and posted the required Notice of Nuisance and Order to Abate at the work site on January 6, 2011. There is no record of any of the other methods of delivery of the notice as defined in the Chapter 13 ordinance such as delivery personally or via certified mail.

On January 25, 2011, the Department of Water Resources presented the report on the crane to the BOS. The crane operator testified at the hearing. Also at the hearing, County Counsel said that in the absence of adequate insurance available to the crane operator, the county might elect to pursue the property owners for the cost of abatement. The BOS authorized staff to abate. The enforcement official then signed the Order to Abate.

On April 5, 2011, the BOS awarded the removal contractor approval to remove the crane from the lake at a cost of \$59,945.07 to the County. The County took ownership of the crane and sold it for scrap. The County received \$4,039.

During the July 12, 2016, BOS meeting, the Board considered an agreement for the crane operator to pay the debt after it was learned there was a letter from him to the Board that stated he was unable to find any funding. There was discussion on how much interest to charge along with the repayment and the matter was continued. There was consideration of placing a lien on property owned by the crane operator's wife as well as discussion of applicability of the Statute of Limitations.

The BOS approved an agreed-upon payment plan with the crane operator during the board meeting on July 19, 2016. As of the writing of this report the crane operator is current on making the agreed upon payments.

Findings:

- F 1. The BOS and the Water Resources Department neglected to try to collect a \$55,906.07 debt owed to the County for over five years.
- F 2. The Code Enforcement Department has a well-oiled process for handling abatements that occur on land.
- F 3. The Department of Water Resources or Lakebed Management did not use all available processes for handling abatements that occur on water. (Chapter 13 and Chapter 23).
- F 4. The BOS has made no effort to determine how or why no one tried to collect the debt or provide any consequences to that person or entity.

- F 5. The Grand Jury could find no reference to required insurance or bonds for contractors constructing docks, piers etc. in the lake other than a State requirement for a \$15,000 bond to be a licensed contractor.
- F 6. Due to the fluid situation with the lake it may not be sufficient to use only one method of contact to reach the proper party.

Recommendations:

- R 1. The BOS, by the end of 2017, add requirements to the Chapter 13 and 23 ordinances that contractors working on the lake have in place bonds and insurance to cover the potential claims based of the size of the project. (F1, F2, F5, F6)
- R 2. Department of Water Resources officially adopt the Chapter 13 process for abatements in the lake within two months of the completion of Recommendation 1. Provide training in the process to enforcement officials within two months after adoption. (F2, F6)
- R 3. BOS determine who had the responsibility to initiate the collection activity and discipline that person or entity. (F4)
- R 4. County Counsel determine, within two months, where in the ordinances the requirement for insurance needs to be added. (F5)
- R 5. BOS change the Chapter 13 ordinance to require the use of two methods of delivery of the Notice to Abate for lake-related abatements to ensure it is included in Recommendation 1. (F6)

Request for Responses:

Pursuant to Penal Code §933(c), the following response is *required*.

- Board of Supervisors (90 days)

The Grand Jury *invites* the following individuals to respond directly to the Grand Jury

- Department of Water Resources (60 days)
- County Counsel (60 days)

Bibliography:

Lake County News: <http://www.lakeconews.com/>

Record Bee <http://www.record-bee.com/>

CA State License Board:

<https://www2.cslb.ca.gov/onlineservices/CheckLicenseII/checklicense.aspx>

Glossary:

Abatement: The termination of a nuisance (Law)

Taxpayers Potentially Lose \$Millions\$ on Real Estate Investments

Summary:

Lake County (County) owns two very expensive commercial properties due to decisions made by County officials starting in 2008. The Holiday Harbor in Nice and the Lucerne Hotel (The Castle) in Lucerne have consumed approximately \$7.2 million of taxpayer money. The Redevelopment Agency supplied most of these funds before it was dissolved in February 2012. This put the County in the position of using local taxpayer funds to support these two properties. Neither has produced significant income for the County to date. The Board of Supervisors (BOS), acting as the Redevelopment Agency, made the decision to purchase these properties.

The 2016-2017 Grand Jury (Grand Jury) believes the County should not be in the commercial real estate business. The BOS should not approve any additional real estate transactions for commercial development.



Holiday Harbor 2/12/17



The Lucerne Hotel (The Castle)

Background:

The Grand Jury decided to investigate properties owned by the County as to:

- how they are managed,
- what purpose the ownership of the properties serve,
- whether or not they produce income for the County and
- why they were purchased.

For the most part, properties owned by the County are necessary to conduct County business such as office space for the various County agencies, buildings to store supplies, and buildings that provide services to the public.

Two properties owned by the County however do not fit into the normal use of government owned properties: The Holiday Harbor and The Castle.

Methodology:

The Grand Jury:

- interviewed members of the BOS and various county staff members,
- examined news articles from the Lake County Record Bee and Lake County News,
- examined websites from the County and the State of California and
- visited various properties.

Discussion and Analysis:

In regards to commercial properties, decision makers for the County do not seem to have a clear vision for their actions. Many employees and officials originally involved with acquiring the properties in this report are no longer with the County. Current employees and officials have the task of trying to figure out what to do with these properties. Other than the BOS, there is no ultimate decision maker with the responsibility of managing these properties.

The County purchased Holiday Harbor in 2008 for \$2 million and invested another \$200 thousand in renovations in the property. The original intent of this property was to find a private developer to develop a waterfront town square and marina that would attract tourism and provide the town of Nice with a unique asset not found in any other community in the County.

Unfortunately, severe storms in November 2013, and December 2014, left the property severely damaged and in need of repair. The County did not have adequate insurance coverage to make needed repairs to the property. This problem along with the dissolution of the Redevelopment Agency and that recession caused the abandonment of the plans.



Holiday Harbor 2016

In July 2015, the BOS made the decision to put the property up for sale. A buyer came forward with a bid of \$1.2 million (a potential \$1 million loss to the County). The sale fell through in May of 2016. As of the writing of this report, the County has failed to relist the property.

Rather than show a shining example to the community by following its own policies and procedures, the County has allowed two boats to remain in the Holiday Harbor marina with registrations at least two years out of date and no current Quagga Mussel stickers. This is a violation of County law and multiple other potential State violations.



Expired stickers on boat 2/12/17

On a later visit to the Harbor the Grand Jury noted the one of the boats had sunk. Since the county took possession several months before, it would have been much cheaper to remove the boat while it was still afloat.



Sailboat sunk in Holiday Harbor (4/15/17)

Another large investment for the County was the purchase of The Castle in Lucerne in September of 2010, for \$1.35 million. The County spent an additional \$3.65 million on this property for renovations bringing the total investment to \$5 million. Redevelopment Agency funds and County loan funds were used to purchase this property.

Originally a County official stated “the County’s ultimate goal is to see the property used for a purpose like a college campus – will benefit all of the taxing entities far more than if it were merely sold”. At the time of the purchase, Redevelopment funds were available. The Redevelopment Agencies have subsequently been phased out by the State.

On July 1, 2013, the County entered into an agreement with Marymount College (College) to lease The Castle property for fifteen years with a clause allowing them to abandon the lease after five years. The lease fee for the first five years is one dollar per year. The lease required payments after the fifth year to be 50% of the College's annual net income thereafter, which is not to be less than \$85 thousand or more than \$250 thousand. The 2016 graduating class of this Marymount campus consisted of thirteen students.

In 2016, the BOS made the decision to allow the College to request a waiver of their lease payment as needed. It is possible that the College will abandon the lease without paying any more than one dollar per year for the time they use the building. The BOS recently made the decision to reduce the space used by the College and use the additional space for County or other educational/commercial use. This would require extensive additional funds for further renovations. Parking at The Castle is insufficient for its current use as well as for the County's intended future uses. It would be difficult to make the proposed additional parking ADA compliant.



Existing Parking at The Castle

The Castle and Holiday Harbor are very large investments with no return. The County removed the properties from the tax rolls since they are no longer privately owned. Plans for the properties are unclear. Many current employees and officials are not knowledgeable in the plans for the properties. One County official interviewed for this report who agreed with the purchase of the properties seemed to be unaware of the amount of money invested in one of the properties. The County continues to spend thousands of dollars annually for insurance and maintenance of the properties.

Findings:

- F1. Employees involved in these County owned properties are not familiar with all aspects of the properties.
- F2. It is not entirely clear what insurance is in place for Holiday Harbor. Docks are treated differently by the insurance agency at various locations.
- F3. The County has \$7.2 million invested in two commercial properties (Holiday Harbor Nice, The Castle) that produce little or no income and continue to be a drain on County finances.
- F4. Original plans for the Holiday Harbor property were too aggressive and expensive for the area.
- F5. The Sheriff and County officials are allowing two boats with registrations at least two years out of date and no Quagga Muscle stickers to remain in Holiday Harbor. This is a clear violation of County and State laws.

- F6. Holiday Harbor berthing fees have not been paid for several years. The County has taken ownership of the abandoned vessels however they were left in the harbor and one has sunk..
- F7. If the College leaves after five years in July 2018, plans for the property are uncertain and most likely will create more financial loss for local taxpayers. In June 2017 during the publication of this report the College abruptly loaded its equipment into a moving van and abandoned the site.
- F8. The small enrollment in the College does not appear to justify the cost of maintaining the campus.
- F9. Some County officials seem to be unaware of the amount of money invested in The Castle.
- F10. Considerable additional funds will be required to fully utilize the Castle property.
- F11. Parking at The Castle is inadequate for the County's current and intended future uses. It would be costly to put in additional parking, as well as make it ADA compliant.
- F12. The County should not be in the business of purchasing and developing real estate for commercial use. County officials are not qualified to plan commercial real estate developments.
- F13. The County and the communities where these properties are located have not benefited from the purchase of these properties.

Recommendations:

- R1 The BOS not approve any additional real estate transactions for commercial development. (F1, F3, F12, F13)
- R2 BOS identify a person responsible to dispose of Holiday Harbor within sixty days. (F3, F4)
- R3 BOS direct the person responsible to list Holiday Harbor on the market "as is" immediately and take action to have the existing boats removed. (F3, F4, F6)
- R4 Sheriff enforce maritime law and County regulations at Holiday Harbor immediately. (F5)
- R5 County collect past due berthing fees from boat owners of the abandoned vessels in Holiday Harbor. (F6)
- R6 BOS consider selling The Castle, or leasing the space to the State as the new courthouse and supporting offices, during fiscal year 2017-2018. (F7, F8, F10, F11, F12, F13)

Request for Responses:

Pursuant to Penal Code section 933(c), the following response is *required*.

- Board of Supervisors (90 days)
- Lake County Sheriff (60 days)

The Grand Jury *invites* the following individuals to respond.

- Chief Administrative Officer (60 days)

200 + County Properties Need Management to Ensure Maximum Insurance Coverage and Minimum Premium Cost



Summary:

Several individuals are involved in the large and difficult task of overseeing Lake County (County) owned properties. The 2016-2017 Lake County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) investigated how many properties are owned by the County, how they are managed and more importantly, how they are insured. Several County employees were interviewed. The Grand Jury found it difficult to find one individual able to answer all questions regarding County owned properties. This report will concentrate on insurance coverage: values placed on the properties, value placed on damaged or destroyed properties, and why it is difficult to get answers about County owned properties.

It is recommended that one individual be assigned to ensure proper records are kept and consistency is applied across all properties. This will ensure that properties are covered at the appropriate level to maximize coverage and minimize costs.

Background:

For the most part, the County owns properties that are necessary to conduct County business such as office space for various County agencies, buildings to store supplies, and buildings that provide services to the public.

The County contracts with the the CSAC (California State Association of Counties) Excess Insurance Authority (EIA) for property insurance coverage. “CSAC EIA is a member-directed risk sharing pool of counties and public entities committed to providing risk coverage programs and risk management services which are competitive, available, responsive, equitable and stable.”¹

The Grand Jury was provided four lists, each containing over 200 properties purported to be appraised and covered by insurance. The four lists include:

- a summary list provided by the County Administrative Office (CAO-S),
- a summary list provided by the Counties Risk Management Officer (RM-S),

¹ CSAC EIA Mission Statement <https://www.csac-eia.org/about-eia/mission/>
2016-2017 Lake County Grand Jury

- a summary list provided by the Public Services Department, Public Services (PS-S),
- a detailed list provided by the Public Services Department (PS-D).

Three of the lists are keyed off the same site number and all lists appear to cover the same properties.

The PS-D was the last one provided to the Grand Jury and is noted as having been prepared by Alliant Insurance Services, Inc. Alliant provides the insurance coverage via CSAC - EIA. The list is dated 1/20/17. It appears to the Grand Jury to be the “Master” list, and the one most likely to be used for insurance claims. Relevant pages from this 72 page report are included as an Appendix to this report. Subsequent to writing this report we received the same list from Risk-Management but dated 4/7/2017. We could find no significant differences between PS-D and this subsequent property schedule. This schedule is important because an item must be “on the schedule” for reimbursement to occur.

The PS-D list (schedule) contains the property description and the appraised value of the properties and their contents. The EIA’s process is to update the values via an appraisal process every five years for properties valued at over \$250K. For those under \$250K, the County needs to request an appraisal and pay for the cost. Most of the items on the list are real property. There are other items on the schedule that are not real property such as docks, piers, gazebos, equipment and vehicles.

Unfortunately, these various lists do not appear to be well coordinated and contain discrepancies and differences. While some properties are noted that the property appraisals are for Replacement Cost New (RCN), many are not. Attention to detail is important in all insurance activity as the “the devil is always in the details” The Grand Jury also found errors in the insurance company documents.

Methodology:

The Grand Jury:

- interviewed various County staff members and officials,
- examined news articles from the Lake County Record Bee and Lake County News,
- examined websites from the County and the State of California,
- examined various insurance property lists,
- visited and examined various properties and took pictures for inclusion in this report.

Discussion and Analysis:

The Grand Jury has found several discrepancies on how some properties are valued by the insurance company. The insurance company appears to have control of the values placed on properties. County employees appear to accept insurance company placed values with little oversight or review. While the Grand Jury was told that some items such as docks, piers and gazebos, are generally excluded from insurance coverage, some of these items are specifically listed on the insurance appraised coverage schedule.

Examples of the discrepancies on the lists include:

1. Piers: There are piers insured which do not exist; there are piers that exist which are not insured. There are multiple gazebos listed on piers, but only one exists on a pier. There is a vast discrepancy in the values assigned to piers.

There are two piers in Alpine Park in Lucerne. One is constructed of steel and includes a gazebo on a platform (See Figure 1). The other is older and constructed of wood with a viewing platform (See Figure 2). The appraised property list from the insurance company includes the steel pier and gazebo (64A), and lists an additional pier that does not exist (64B), and duplicates coverage on the gazebo (64C). Listing (64D) is correct for a separate gazebo in the park. The older wooden pier is not listed. It appears our premiums are based on two steel piers and two gazebos listed by the insurance company.

On the PS-D list Site #64 (Alpine Park) in Lucerne includes:

- #64A a fishing pier (124') with a 60' by 40' platform including a gazebo valued at \$942,435.
- #64B a 60' by 84' platform on a 60' by 40' pier valued at \$118,244. (This is physically impossible.)
- #64C an 18' by 36' gazebo on a pier platform valued at \$118,244.
- The total value on this list is \$1,174,923 for two piers two gazebos on the piers.

On the RM-S list Site #64 includes:

- #64A a fishing pier & platform at \$284,848,
- #64B a pier at \$118,362 and
- #64C a gazebo on a pier valued at \$118,362.
- The total value on this list is \$521,572 for two piers and one gazebo.



Fig. 1 Alpine Park steel pier



Fig. 2 Alpine park wooden pier

The Grand Jury was verbally told (confirmed in an e-mail) that piers were not covered yet they are on the schedule of appraised properties with the note of appraised as RCN, and appear to have significant value.

2. Docks: Insurance coverage on docks is inconsistent. One dock is specifically itemized as covered and the second dock should have been included as the “marina” is covered.

Site #118 Keeling Park dock in Nice is valued at \$72,887 on the PS-D schedule (See Figure 3).

Site #157 (Holiday Harbor RV Park and Marina) in Nice is valued at \$487,112 on the RM-S list and \$481,907 on the CAO-S list. The Holiday Harbor RV Park and Marina description does not include the words docks or seawall. The Grand Jury was told that the Marina docks (See Figure 4) were not covered by the insurance company even though the Marina is listed on the appraised property list. However, the insurance company did cover storm damage to the seawall. Merriam-Webster dictionary defines Marina as “a dock or basin providing secure moorings for pleasure boats”. This is difficult without docks.



Fig. 3 Keeling Park dock

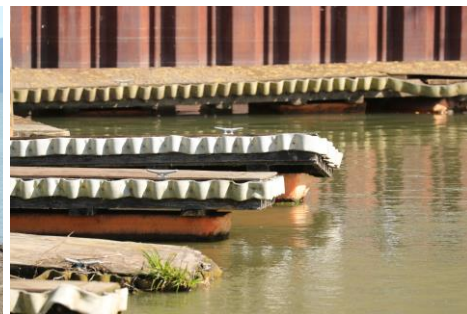


Fig. 4 Damaged Holiday Harbor Marina docks

3. Gazebos (land-based): Coverage between property lists is inconsistent.

Several gazebos are included on the lists ranging in value from Site #36A (Lower Lake Park) valued at \$7,785 to #64D (Alpine Park, See Figure 5) in Lucerne that has a small gazebo valued at \$49,719, both values from

PS-D. The Grand Jury is unable to determine the ownership and value of another similar gazebo in the county (Clearlake Oaks).



Figure 5. Alpine Park Gazebo

4. Covered Pedestrian Bridge: There is a covered pedestrian bridge to Clark’s Island in Clearlake Oaks that is not on any of the lists. As Figure 6 shows it is a large and expensive structure that should be covered by insurance.



Fig. 6. Clark’s Island pedestrian bridge

5. Restrooms: Insured value of restrooms at various locations is inconsistent.

Restrooms in parks range from Site # 67 Clearlake Oaks Launch valued at \$84,875 on PS-D (See Figure 7) to #63 Lucerne Harbor valued at \$284,531 on RM-S and \$129,992 on PS-D (See Figure 8). They are the same size and cost to replace them would likely be the same.



Fig. 7. Clearlake Oaks Launch



Fig. 8. Lucerne Harbor

6. Signs: Only one park sign is insured although many similar signs exist.

Site #64E Alpine Park in Lucerne has a sign valued at \$7,822 on the PS-D list yet other signs in the County that are obviously more costly are not included. Note that there are two signs in Alpine Park (See Figure 9). The insured sign is described as 1 sq. ft. and that description fits neither sign.

Every County park includes similar signage, yet only one is listed on any list and therefore the others are likely not insured.



Fig. 9 The two signs identifying Alpine Park

There are many other signs not listed (see next page).



Fig. 10 Four other random County signs not included on any of the lists

7. Monument Clocks: Of all the monument clocks in the County, only one is insured.

Site #49A Museum specifically includes the monument clock on the grounds valued at \$33,304. Other similar clocks are not included on the appraised property schedule (See Figure 11).



Museum Upper Lake Clearlake Oaks Middletown

Fig. 11: Only one of these four clocks is covered.

8. Major properties:

The Grand Jury has neither the expertise nor the time to examine the values or consistency of all major properties but expects similar errors throughout the various lists. The discrepancies uncovered in this report were relatively easy for the Grand Jury to find.

One explanation provided to the Grand Jury was that different values exist because valuation was done many years ago at the time of construction. However, the EIA policy of doing appraisals every five years should correct that situation. The Grand Jury was told that the County does request the every five-year appraisal for those properties valued at under \$250K. Thus, the inconsistencies are still a mystery.

The Grand Jury was informed that insurance coverage for all properties is for Replacement Cost New (RCN). The PS-D schedule identifies some, but not all properties, as RCN appraisals. Only 24.4% are so designated. An Evidence of Coverage document from (CSAC EIA) indicates that real and personal property will be valued at the replacement value at the time of the loss without deduction for depreciation. Other deductibles may apply.

Interviews with County officials have typically ended with the person having to do research to find answers to some of our questions because they did not know the answers. Promised responses were seldom, if ever, received by the Grand Jury.

Findings:

- F1. After multiple interviews with various county officials and staff members, the Grand Jury has been unable to resolve the discrepancies or get answers to our questions. The only conclusion we can reach is that nobody really knows or cares.
- F2. The Grand Jury's conclusion is that in some cases the County is under insured and in other cases over insured. The County's premiums (costs) appear to be either too high or too low, it is anybody's guess. It appears that the County has relinquished oversight of insured properties to CSAC-EIA and Alliant Insurance Services, Inc.
- F3. Keeping track of County owned properties is not a high priority. The Grand Jury could find no central point of control to answer all the issues with regard to property coverage.
- F4. Employees involved in County owned properties are not familiar with all aspects of the properties.
- F5. Insurance coverage for County owned properties is not consistent. Similar items are not always included.
- F6. Insured values placed on listed properties are not consistent.
- F7. Docks, piers and gazebos are treated differently by the insurance agency at various locations.
- F8. County employees are unable to explain the discrepancies in insurance values and coverage.
- F9. County reviews of the insurance coverage on County owned properties are rare and uncoordinated.

- F10. The Grand Jury was informed that replacement value coverage is guaranteed for all County properties. However, the Grand Jury found damage that was not covered such as the Holiday Harbor Marina docks.
- F11. It is possible insurance premiums would change if items on the schedule and property values were consistent.
- F12. The “Master” schedule of insured properties prepared by Alliant shows significant variations with the schedule of insured properties submitted by CAO and Risk Management.

Recommendations:

- R1. By September 2017, establish a centralized Property Management Office (PMO). This person should be experienced in insurance and real estate terms and practices. This person will be responsible for ensuring that the master property schedule is accurate with regard to items listed and the appropriate value to ensure insurance coverage. This position would also coordinate and track all decisions regarding real property purchases, uses, enhancements, disposals and insurance claim initiations. In addition, this position would evaluate property utilization and make recommendations to the BOS regarding actions that would improve utilization. To ensure that all interested parties are represented, establish a Property Management Committee (PMC) led by the PMO and including representation from Risk Management, the Chief Administrative Office and Public Services department. (F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, F6, F7, F8, F9, F10, F11, F12)
- R2. Perform an audit of properties every two years. (F3, F5, F6, F9, F12)
- R3. Correct Property Schedule inconsistencies. Complete by January 2018. (F5, F6, F7, F8, F9, F12)
- R4. Perform an investigation into why the Holiday Harbor RV Park and Marina docks were not replaced by insurance, even though the marina is on the insurance company’s appraised list. Determine who was responsible. Complete this task by January 2018. (F7, F8, F10)
- R5. Add the Clarks Island Pedestrian Bridge to the Lake County Property Schedule. Complete by January 2018. (F12)
- R6. Add the large County and Park signs as well as the clocks to the Lake County Property Schedule. Complete by January 2018. (F12)

Request for Responses:

Pursuant to Penal Code section 933(c), the following response is *required*.

- Board of Supervisors (90 days)

The Grand Jury *invites* the following individuals to respond.

- Chief Administrative Officer (60 days)
- Risk Management (County Counsel) (60 days)
- Director of Public Services (60 days)

Bibliography

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/marina>

<https://www.csac-eia.org/about-eia/>

Appendix A

Public Services/Aliant Insurance Detail Schedule

PREPARED BY
Alliant Insurance Services, Inc.
 1301 Dove Street
 Suite 200
 Newport Beach, CA 92660 (949) 756-0271

**CSAC - EIA PROPERTY SCHEDULE
 LAKE COUNTY**

Page 27
 Includes B & M

Real Property Trend Factor: -0.10%
 Personal Property Trend Factor: -0.28%

January 20, 2017

Loc #	2nd Id	Address, City, Zip	Occupancy	Construction	Auto Year	Year Built	Year Apprs	Zone	Real Prop	Pers Prop	BI / Rents	Year	Real Property	Personal Property	BI / Rents	Totals
-------	--------	--------------------	-----------	--------------	-----------	------------	------------	------	-----------	-----------	------------	------	---------------	-------------------	------------	--------

inspected the subject property. The physical information utilized is from the previous appraisal of July 2014.

Previous notes:

The restroom structure located at Alpine Park is a concrete structure that includes a men's and women's side. Since the last appraisal the prior (existing) values shown here have been trended. This appraisal is for replacement cost new (RCN), which is the cost to replace an entire building with a new one of equal utility and quality. As such it does not consider the cost of renovations to existing buildings.

Client escort: Coordinated with Caroline Chavez, Director (not present at inspections).

Alarms:

64	A	ALPINE PARK	3,512 SQ. FT.	Class: S	No	2010	2014	EQ: A3	No	No	No	2016	\$942,720	\$0	\$0	\$942,720
Your Location	034-121-11	FISHING PIER	FISHING PIER	ALL STEEL				Flood: AE	Yes	Yes	Yes	2017	\$942,435	\$0	\$0	\$942,435
		5985 E. HWY 20	Pct. Sprnkt: 0%	Notes: Pier is 124' by 8' with a 60' x 40' platform at the end out above the water, steel & cement construction				Rent Notes:								
		LUCERNE CA 95458	Stories: 1													

Lat: 39.094754 Lng: -122.80042

The Alpine Park Pier is constructed of steel and concrete with a steel railing with stainless steel cable detail. The pier was built in 2010. Amenities include benches, lights and a gazebo. The updated square footage is from the appraiser's on-site measurements of the pier. Since the last appraisal the prior (existing) values shown here have been trended. This appraisal is

The above location is continued on the next page.

PREPARED BY
Alliant Insurance Services, Inc.

1301 Dove Street

Suite 200

Newport Beach, CA 92660 (949) 756-0271

**CSAC - EIA PROPERTY SCHEDULE
LAKE COUNTY**

Page 28

Includes B & M

Real Property Trend Factor: -0.10%

Personal Property Trend Factor: -0.28%

January 20, 2017

Loc #	2nd Id	Address, City, Zip	Occupancy	Construction	Auto Spkr	Year Built	Year Apprs	Zone	Real Prop	Pers Prop	BI/ Rents	Year	Real Property	Personal Property	BI/ Rents	Totals
for replacement cost new (RCN), which is the cost to replace an entire building with a new one of equal utility and quality. As such it does not consider the cost of renovations to existing buildings.																
Client escort: Coordinated with Caroline Chavez, Director (not present at inspections). Alarms:																
64	B	ALPINE PARK - PIER PLATFORM	2,400 SQ. FT. PIER	Class: S ALL STEEL	No	2010		EQ: A3 Flood: AE Rent Notes:	No	No	No	2016	\$118,362	\$0	\$0	\$118,362
Your Location	034-121-11	5985 E. HWY 20 Lucerne CA 95458	60x40' steelof pier	Notes: 60 x 84' steel & cement construction at end of pier. Alarms:					Yes	Yes	Yes	2017	\$118,244	\$0	\$0	\$118,244
Stories: 1 Lat: 39.094754 Lng. -122.80042																
64	C	ALPINE PARK - PIER GAZEBO	648 SQ. FT. Gazebo on pier platform	Class: S ALL STEEL	No	2010		EQ: A3 Flood: AE Rent Notes:	No	No	No	2016	\$118,362	\$0	\$0	\$118,362
Your Location	034-121-11	5985 E. HWY 20 Lucerne CA 95458		Notes: Gazebo is an 18x36 shade structure with steel poles supporting the roof; roof has Alpine-styled roofline with roof of tongue-in-groove pine covered with composite roofing material. Alarms:					Yes	Yes	Yes	2017	\$118,244	\$0	\$0	\$118,244
Stories: 1 Lat: 39.094754 Lng. -122.80042																
64	D	Alpine Park Gazebo	400 SQ. FT. Small Gazebo	Class: S ALL STEEL	No	2011		EQ: A3 Flood: AE Rent Notes:	No	No	No	2016	\$49,769	\$0	\$0	\$49,769
Your Location	034-121-11	5985 E. HWY 20 Lucerne CA 95458		Notes: Alarms:					Yes	Yes	Yes	2017	\$49,719	\$0	\$0	\$49,719
Stories: 1 Lat: 39.094754 Lng. -122.80042																

CSAC - EIA PROPERTY SCHEDULE LAKE COUNTY

PREPARED BY
Alliant Insurance Services, Inc.

1301 Dove Street
Suite 200

Newport Beach, CA 92660 (949) 756-0271

Includes B & M

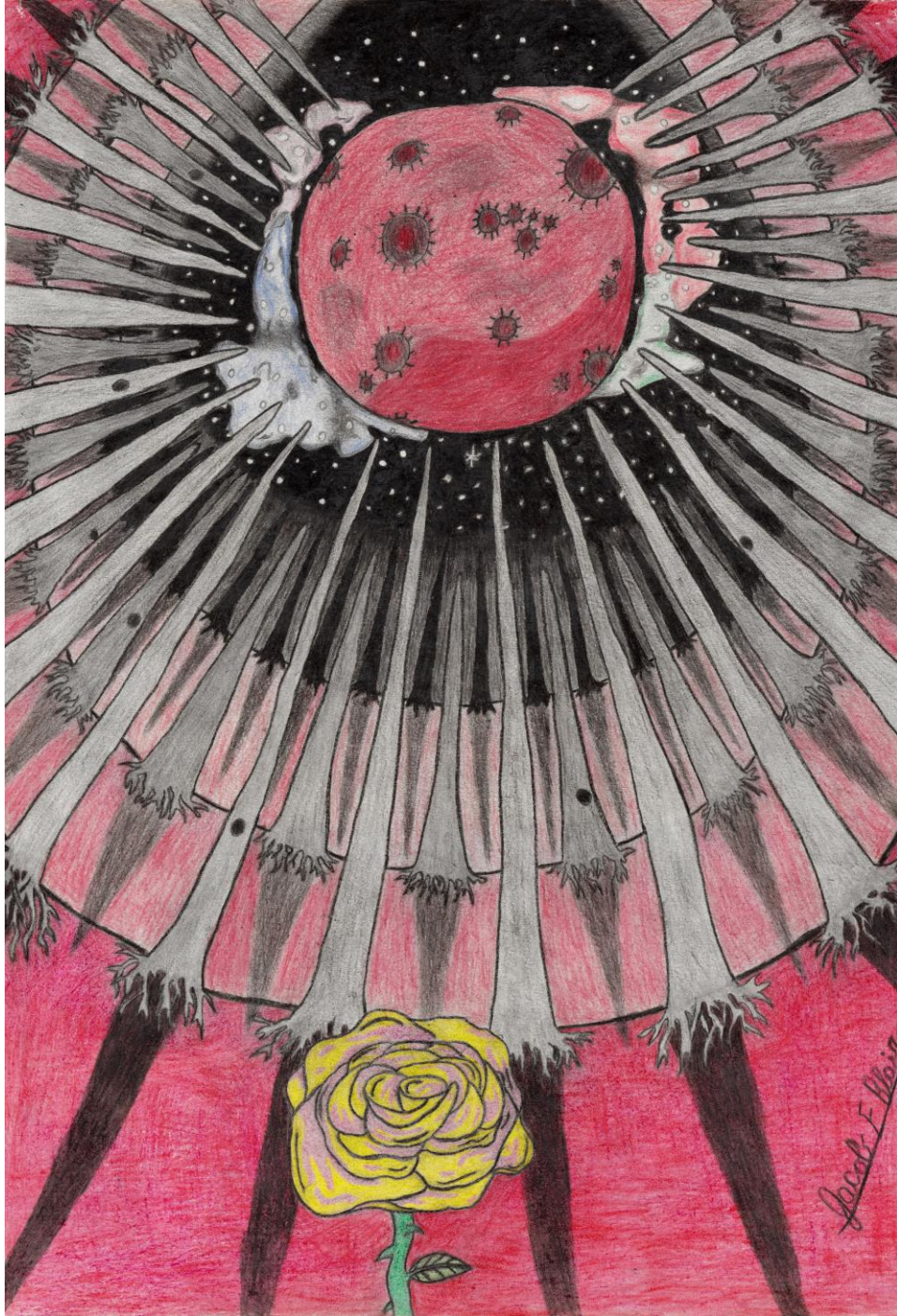
Real Property Trend Factor: -0.10%
Personal Property Trend Factor: -0.28%

January 20, 2017

Loc #	2nd Id	Address, City, Zip	Occupancy	Construction	Auto Spktr	Year Built	Year Apprs	Zone	Real Prop	Pers Prop	BI / Rents	Year	Real Property	Personal Property	BI / Rents	Totals
154		LUCERNE ALPINE SENIORS, INC. 6467 9TH AVE. LUCERNE CA 95458	2,400 SQ. FT. THRIFT STORE Pct. Sprmkl: 0	Class: S ALL STEEL Notes: Alarms: Smoke	No	1970	EQ: A3 Flood: B-X Rent Notes:	A3	No	No	No	2016	\$166,911	\$0	\$0	\$166,911
									Yes	Yes	Yes	2017	\$166,744	\$0	\$0	\$166,744
Lat: 39.091431 Lng. -122.793114																
156		CLEARLAKE TRAINING FACILITY AND CONFERENCE ROOM 4477 MOSS AVE, UNIT C CLEARLAKE CA 95422	1,920 SQ. FT. SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT LAKE COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES Pct. Sprmkl: 0	Class: D ALL COMB (WOOD FRAME) Notes: Alarms: Entry Alarm	No	2005	EQ: A3 Flood: X Rent Notes:	A3	No	No	No	2016	\$0	\$10,459	\$0	\$10,459
									Yes	Yes	Yes	2017	\$0	\$10,430	\$0	\$10,430
Lat: 38.95093 Lng. -122.62222																
156	A	Probation Office 4477 Moss Ave., Unit B Clearlake CA 95422	0 SQ. FT. Probation Dept.	Class: UNKNOWN Notes: 3/19/12 JB - Location change per Gail Albin's request. Alarms:	No		EQ: A3 Flood: D Rent Notes:	A3	No	No	No	2016	\$0	\$10,459	\$0	\$10,459
									Yes	Yes	Yes	2017	\$0	\$10,430	\$0	\$10,430
Lat: 38.951107 Lng. -122.622241																
157		032-133-350-00 & 032-137-01-00 HOLIDAY HARBOR RV PARK AND MARINA 3605 AND 3655 LAKESHORE BLVD. NICE CA 95464	4,895 SQ. FT. HOLIDAY HARBOR MARINA Pct. Sprmkl: 0	Class: S ALL STEEL Notes: 1. Duplex units - 2212 Sq Ft - Total Value - \$278,712 2. Garage - 288 Sq Ft - Total Value \$16,975 3. Dirt Floor Shop - 391 Sq Ft - Total Value (attached to garage - incl. in value) 4. Mechanic Shop - 468 Sq Ft - Total Value \$33,930 5. Commercial Bldg. - 1536 Sq Ft - Total Value \$111,360 Sq Ft - Total 4,895 Total Value \$440,977 Alarms: None	No	1967	EQ: A3 Flood: X Rent Notes:	A3	No	No	No	2016	\$487,112	\$0	\$0	\$487,112
									Yes	Yes	Yes	2017	\$486,625	\$0	\$0	\$486,625
Lat: Lng. Geocode Notes: Precision: ZIP Code																

The above location is continued on the next page.

Government Services



Grand Jury Art Contest Winner Ages 16-18
Jacob Blair Age 16

The Road Conditions in the City of Clearlake.



Eureka Avenue, Clearlake, 1/14/2017

Summary:

For quite some time the citizens of the city of Clearlake have been complaining about the conditions of their roads. A study by Nichols Engineering has revealed that if the conditions of the roads are not addressed the entire system of roads will fail and require a complete reconstruction.

Local governments have the responsibility to provide their constituents with safe infrastructures within their city. “The City has 112 miles of road ways. The system is comprised of 63 miles of paved roads and 49 are dirt/gravel roads. A majority of the dirt gravel roads are residential roads.” [Bibliography 4]

Current funds utilized for City road maintenance are allocated in the amount of \$450,000 annually. This amount is insufficient to solve the problem. Additional sources of money must be found.

One source of funds the City could utilize would be from Proposition P. Proposition P has a clause which allows its funds to be utilized by the city for other things such as roads providing the police department is fully staffed at the authorized level of 31 officers.

The City was able to place Measure V on this year’s general election ballot. With the passing of this proposition, the city will receive approximately \$1.7 million annually to pay for the maintenance of the city roads.

Another possible source of funds for the use on City's roads could come from the sale of various properties within the city that are eligible to be sold for delinquent taxes.

Background:

According to City Officials, to improve the culture of a city it needs to do three things:

1. Improve the roads.
2. Have strong code enforcement.
3. Work on economic development.

The Grand Jury attended a public forum sponsored by the City. The meeting stimulated an investigation into the roads in Clearlake. A tour by members of the Grand Jury revealed many deficiencies in the City's road system. "The majority of the City's roads systems were constructed in the 1930s and 1940s." [Bibliography 4]

"An engineering report called the Pavement Management Program (PMP) indicates that the City needs to spend \$15.2 million for reconstruction and rehabilitation of the current City streets in 2017 to bring Clearlake roads up to acceptable standards." [Bibliography 1] Current funding does not allow for any major repair or maintenance.

Methodology:

The methodology used in this investigation involved interviews:

- Members of Clearlake City staff
- Members of Lake County staff

The Grand Jury also reviewed the following documents

- Pamphlet distributed by the City of Clearlake staff titled, *Streets: Facts and Information*
- Report: *City of Clearlake: Pavement Management Program Update Report – June 2015*
- The City of Clearlake Budget, Approved for 2016-2017
- City of Clearlake, Road Maintenance and Improvement

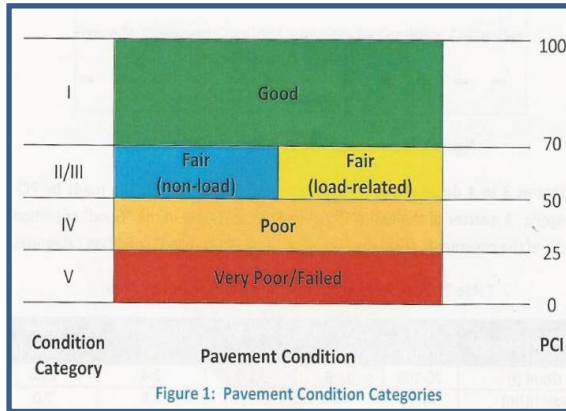
The Grand Jury conducted personal inspections of road conditions.

Discussion and Analysis:

A pavement management company updated Clearlake's Road Management Report in 2015. The report highlighted the (Pavement Condition Index) PCI of the City's roads. "The PCI is a measurement of a road in a range from zero to 100." [Bibliography 1]. It is an accepted roadway industry term referring to the condition of a particular road. Road value of 25 or less is a rating of Very Poor/Failed. "The average PCI of the City's entire road network was 38 (Poor) in 2012 and 37 (Poor) in 2015." [Bibliography 1] "Average PCI for the City's arterials (Olympic Drive, Old Hwy 53, Lakeshore Drive) is 87(Good); for collectors (Dam Road, Burns Valley Road, 30th Avenue) the PCI is 44 (Poor); and for the residential

roads the rating is Very Poor” [Bibliography 1]. “The average Remaining Service Life (RSL) is estimated to be eight years, for roads, this is the time required for pavements to reach a Very Poor/Failed condition if no maintenance occurs.” [Bibliography 1] See Charts below.

The PCI rating does not apply to gravel/dirt roads. Many of these roads are in



the residential areas and have not received any type of repair or maintenance for many years.

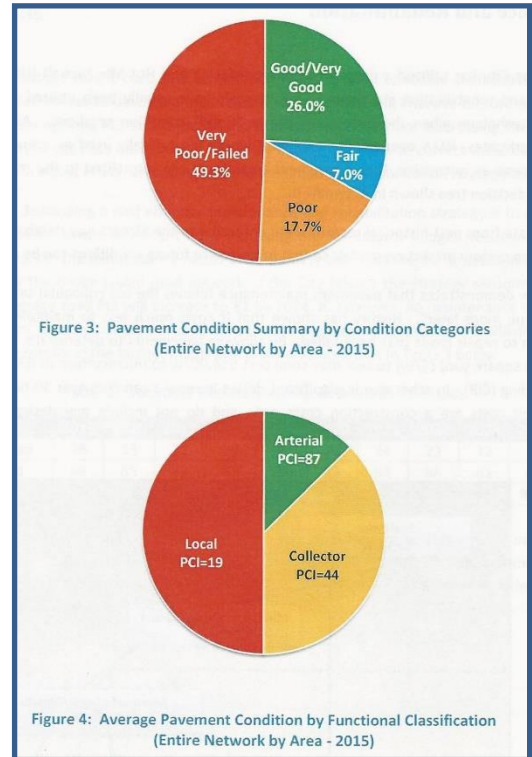
Roads are unsafe for the City’s residents, and can inflict serious damage to their vehicles as well as emergency service equipment such as law enforcement, fire, ambulances etc. In some areas of the City, utility services such as US Postal Delivery and garbage pickup are threatened to be cancelled due to the roads being unusable.

A failure to properly budget for road repair will cause the City’s roads to fall into further disrepair causing the maintenance of the roads to be expensive. PMP estimates that at the present rate of maintenance the roads will be classified as Poor by 2024. [Bibliography 1].

The fact that a city has poor roads will affect not only current residents, as previously stated, but will have a large impact on those persons who may be looking to locate in the City.

The total budget for the City of Clearlake is \$11 million. After all mandated expenditures are deducted from the amount there is \$4.9 million remaining for the City to spend on other city operations including road maintenance and repairs.

In the last ten years, the city has received approximately \$14 million in State and Federal funding for major roads (arterials and collectors). Presently there is no outside funding available for residential roads which are predominately dirt.



Possible Sources of Funding:

The \$450,000 that is now in the Approved 2016-2017 Clearlake City Budget comes from the City's share of the gas tax and Retail Sales Tax Plan (RSTP). Gas tax revenues continue to diminish as the fuel economy of our vehicle increases.

Proposition P has a clause which allows its funds to be utilized by the City for other things such as roads under certain conditions. This is probably not a feasible source of funding in the near term. The department is required to be at authorized full strength before excess funds are used for any other purpose.

The citizens of Clearlake passed Measure V in 2016. This measure will add one penny to the sales tax, which will inject approximately \$1.7 million per year into the City budget for the next twenty years. The measure went into effect on April 1, 2017, with funds from the measure being available for expenditure sometime in the third quarter of 2017. It will take an undetermined period to generate enough money to begin road repair. Funds from Measure V are for road maintenance and repairs. This will greatly assist in the effort to maintain the City's roads.

Another possible source of funds could come from the sale of properties that are delinquent in their taxes. The City's ability to sell some of their tax lien properties would provide them with additional funds to be used on their roadways. Such a sale has not taken place since 2013. (For further information on this topic, please see our investigation on Tax Liens in this Final Report)

Findings:

- F 1. "If no maintenance occurs, the average remaining service time until the overall road network reaches a point of failure is eight years and the PCI will drop from 37 to 21 (Very Poor) by 2024. If maintenance continues at the current level the PCI will drop from 37 to 32 (Poor) by 2024.:
[Bibliography 1]
- F 2. "The City of Clearlake needs to spend \$15.2 million for reconstruction and rehabilitation of the city streets in 2017 to bring the roads to acceptable standards". [Bibliography 4]
- F 3. It is estimated the amount needed to fund the full reconstructions of the City's pavement network, not counting sidewalks, signals, and signs, to be \$26.6 million.
- F 4. Improvement in the City's roads would increase the value of property and promote the construction of new homes in the City.
- F 5. If the dirt roads do not get attention soon public safety (police and fire) response time will increase.
- F 6. Based on the principle that it costs less to maintain roads in good condition than those listed as poor, therefore it makes sense to keep the roads into better condition.
- F 7. A few years ago, the City did a preliminary estimate of the cost to pave all of its dirt roads. The estimate at that time was approximately \$60 million.

To put that into perspective the revenue from Measure V would total approximately \$32 million over its 20-year life. (\$1.7 million times 20 years equals \$34 million).

- F 8. Due to the magnitude of the problem, not all the city's roads can be repaired or maintained immediately.
- F 9. The City has not participated in the sale of delinquent tax lien properties since 2013.

Recommendations:

- R 1. Prioritize the roadway rehabilitation in terms of existing problems. (F1, F2, F6, F8)
- R 2. Coordinate with the County of Lake to participate in a tax lien property tax sale. (F9)

Request for Responses:

Pursuant to Penal Code §933 (c), the following response is required:

- Clearlake City Council within 90 days.

Glossary:

Arterial Road: An arterial road or arterial thoroughfare is a high-capacity urban road, The primary function of an arterial road is to deliver traffic from collector roads to freeways or expressways, and between urban centers at the highest level service possible.

Collector Road: A collector road or distributor road is a low-moderate capacity road that serves to move traffic from local/residential streets to arterial roads.

Bibliography:

- 1) City of Clearlake: Pavement Management Program Update Report 2015
- 2) City produced pamphlet: City Streets: Facts and Information
- 3) Portions of the City Of Clearlake Budget for 2016-2017
- 4) City produced document titled "Road Maintenance and Improvement

Has anybody seen a Tax Lien Sale recently?



Summary:

A city or county government is responsible for providing many necessary functions for its citizenry. The principal method of raising funds is through the taxation process. The governing entity does not receive the funds needed to sustain their operation if property taxes are not collected.

The 2016-2017 Grand Jury (Grand Jury) discovered that Lake County (County) has not held a tax lien sale since February 2013. Failure to conduct tax lien sales in a timely manner has deprived the cities of Clearlake, Lakeport and the County itself, of the funds from selling such properties.

Our recommendation is that the County conduct tax lien sales on an annual basis.

Background:

Municipalities depend on local tax monies to finance the operation of their government.

When a local municipality has adequate funds to operate, they can create an atmosphere that make people desire to live in their city.

When improvements are made to either private residences or commercial buildings, the property tax revenues will increase

When property owners stop paying the taxes due on their property or vacate their properties without paying the taxes, the municipality will lose valuable tax monies. The loss of those types of tax monies will affect municipalities' ability to fund their operations.

When a tax lien property sells, it is hoped that the new owners of said property will invest in them, increasing their value and generating more tax revenue.

A property is eligible for a tax sale when property taxes have been delinquent for five consecutive years. Vacant houses or lots can deteriorate to such an extent that the values of surrounding properties are negatively affected.

Methodology:

The methodology used in this investigation involved:

- interviews with members of Clearlake City Staff,
- interviews with members of Lake County Staff,
- review of data supplied by Lake County
- review of the California State Controller website, County Tax Sale Procedure Manuals
- reviewed Board of Supervisors Agenda 3/14/17

Discussion and Analysis:

When residents of cities pay their property taxes to the County, a percentage comes back to each city.

The City of Clearlake has approximately 15,500 pieces of property that have had tax assessments billed for 2016-2017. Over seven thousand taxable properties contained structures valued over \$4,999. The City has 1,346 pieces of property that are eligible for a tax sale.

The City of Lakeport has approximately 2,300 pieces of property that have had tax assessments billed for 2016-2017. Almost two thousand taxable properties contained structures valued over \$4,999. The City of Lakeport has 121 pieces of property that are eligible for a tax sale.

The County has approximately 40,500 pieces of property that have had tax assessments billed for 2016-2017. Almost nineteen thousand taxable properties contained structures valued over \$4,999. The County has 3,171 pieces of property that are eligible for a tax sale.

During the Grand Jury's initial investigation, County officials indicated that they do not have enough trained personnel to conduct a tax lien sale, and were not planning to do so.

However, after this report was finished, the Board of Supervisors (BOS) at their meeting on 3/14/2017, directed "the Tax collector to sell, at public auction via internet, tax-defaulted property which is subject to the power to sell in accordance with . . . the California Revenue and Taxation code." This sale will be June 9, through June 12, 2017. There are 141 listed properties to be auctioned, for a total minimum bid of \$3,162,900. For complete details see BOS Agenda: 3/14/2017, Non-Timed Item 9.5, Attachment: [Reso TaxDefaultProperties](#).

Findings:

- F 1. Since the County has not exercised its authority to hold a tax lien sale since 2013, it has hampered the ability of the municipalities to have all monies available for their operations.
- F 2. The proposed sale of 141 tax-defaulted properties is only three percent of the total available properties eligible for tax sale.

Recommendations:

- R 1. The County conduct a tax lien sale on an annual basis including properties from the cities of Clearlake and Lakeport. (F1)

Request for Responses:

Pursuant to Penal Code section 933(c), the following response is *required*.

Board of Supervisors (90 days)

County Treasurer/Tax Collector (60 days)

The Grand Jury *invites* the following individuals to respond.

City of Clearlake Financial Manager (60 days)

City of Lakeport Financial Officer (60 days)

Health and Human Services



Grand Jury Art Contest First Place Winner Ages 9-12
Grayson Wind, Age 12

Inadequate Staffing of County Behavioral Health

Summary:

There are multiple agencies striving to provide services and support to those most vulnerable in our communities. The 2016-2017 Grand Jury (Grand Jury) undertook an investigation of the current state of the Lake County Department of Behavioral Health (BH) to evaluate its adequacy in fulfilling county needs. The results of this investigation uncovered unmet needs and inability to provide needed services to our residents. Improvements to the behavioral health system include possible consolidation and creative outreach efforts, appoint a permanent director, fully staff the existing nursing positions.

Background:

The Department of BH provides a broad array of services covering mental health and substance abuse. Mental health services cover integrated recovery-oriented processes that assist individuals and families who are dealing with serious mental illness as well as management of mental health crises for all members of the community. These may provide for inpatient or temporary residential care as appropriate. Alcohol and other drug services offered in clinic locations provide abuse diversion and treatment services, individual and group counseling, trauma-informed treatment services for adults and youth. Other services include referrals to detoxification or residential treatment centers, substance abuse prevention information for individuals, employers and employee assistance programs, and school based programs. There are several wellness centers to meet the needs of unserved and underserved populations.

At the time of our initial interview, there was only one professionally trained registered nurse working within the department. This person spends most of their time filling weekly prescription doses for approximately 400 clients. The filling of prescriptions is a task that is completed by properly licensed and certified individuals. This is using up the critical senior employee's entire time, precluding any actual nursing.

Methodology:

The Grand Jury conducted six interviews (covering several people): three at the BH headquarters in Lucerne, two at the Grand Jury Courthouse in Kelseyville, and one at the County Courthouse in Lakeport, beginning in September 2016, and concluding in January 2017. Additional information was obtained from a number of sources including:

- active senior nurses from a variety of locations (including rural areas) outside of Lake County,
- solicited inputs from the California Department of Health in Sacramento,

- on-line reviews of specific California state laws covering both this arena and the staffing of critical positions in a BH Department,
- state-wide and national organizational trends for potential operational/effectiveness/fiscal control improvements, and
- state-wide compensation and work conditions equivalencies.

Discussion and Analysis:

During the time that the interviews were conducted, one full time nurse was employed. There has been significant difficulty in locating/hiring/retention of skilled nurses for the BHS Department.

Lake County and the Board of Supervisors (BOS) have been considering consolidating various departments with the intent of saving money and helping with personnel shortages. The county is considering assigning the management tasks of some departments to an ‘umbrella agency’. The Department of Social Services, Behavioral Health Department and Public Health Services (and potentially other county agencies) is the proposed merger.

The concept of an “umbrella agency”, first utilized in 1903 in New York City by a private/religious based organization. This concept has been utilized throughout California and many other states since the mid 1970’s. These have resulted in some recognizable successes, some stellar failures, and in between - a host of greater or lesser successes.

It is completely within the authority of the BOS to adopt/install an ‘umbrella agency’ over several county departments.

State sponsored billing by Lake County (County) to the California Department of Health and federal grant block funds make up the vast majority of the multi-million dollar operating budget of the Behavioral Health Department. The County contribution for operation of BH is approximately \$65,000.

The County estimated ‘gross domestic product’ (GDP) for 2017 is approximately \$2.6 billion (California County-Level Economic Forecast 2015-2040), the County Budget for 2017 is approximately \$225 million (Official Approved Budget). The total number of people employed throughout all of County is approximately 16,200, the number of governmental employees in the County is approximately 4,000 (some smaller portion is state and some smaller portion is federal) (California County-Level Economic Forecast 2015-2040). The County budget is the largest single portion of the County GDP and the governmental workers comprise approximately 25% of the County labor force.

The State of California defines the requirements for a Director of Behavioral Health via California Title 9, Article 8, Subsection 620. These are almost exclusively medical/psychological/behavioral health training and experience based. Allowances are permitted by Subsection 620.1 for temporary use (up to one year) of an “Interim Director of Behavioral Health” that does not meet those stringent requirements – with State Department of Health approval.

Current County Budget is divided into 24 areas: six of these fall underneath specific elected officials (Assessor/Recorder, Auditor/Controller-County Clerk, District Attorney, Sheriff/Coroner, Tax Collector, the Superior Court Judges.) and eighteen fall underneath the BOS (See Graph #1). The considered “Umbrella Agency” would (depending upon range of agencies affected) would comprise between 47% and approximately 55% of the BOS supervised portion of the County budget (see Graph #2).

Findings:

- F1. The County Budget for operation of BH is approximately \$65,000, the significant balance of the overall funding comes primarily from California state funding (and some federal funding via grant blocks) generated by invoicing of approved services.
- F2. The requirement of medication dosage preparation has impeded the most senior nurse available in BH from fulfilling other critically needed nursing services.
 - i.e. The medication dosage preparation task could be done by two teams of two people working in tandem. One team in the Lucerne facility and the other in the Clearlake facility of part-time people working ten hours a week each. There is potentially an available pool of retired registered nurses or pharmacists (with current licenses) who could perform this task within the County. Initial searches via county Senior Centers might yield a quantity of interested and qualified people. This would allow task completion and freeing of on-staff senior nurses for other (billable) duties.
- F3. Efforts to hire and retain skilled nurses for the BH have been unsuccessful.
 - i.e. Long-term filling of nursing positions needs to utilize methods or inducements, that will stand out from the countless other opportunities open to nurses looking for a start or a change in their career location. Recruitment via county job boards (physical and on-line), standard nursing internet job sited, and local (multi-county) newspapers has proven less than rich in results. For targeted recruiting, selection of a few key locations (probably those that are heavily urban with extremely high housing and other costs) could be a successful path in location of nurses who might want to make a move beneficial to themselves, their families, and their futures. Direct solicitation to certified nursing schools/universities placement departments for new graduates would also offer possibilities of more qualified candidates.
- F4. Filling open personnel requisitions would allow many more services to be completed and properly billed to allow state and federal funding to reach this department. This would readily result in even more services/broader expansion of those served which would benefit the county residents in need of such services.

- F5. Searches for nursing staff are generally made using common methods along the simplest lines. Little or no unusual or innovative concepts to differentiate Lake County from the thousands of other nationwide nursing positions have been developed.
- F6. The latest organizational/management changes at the Department of BH are focused primarily on financial efficiency instead of client care.
- F7. An Umbrella Agency, consisting of Department of Social Services, Department of Behavioral Health Services, and other possible departments has been proposed to the BOS.
- F8. An “Interim Director of Behavioral Health” was installed in December 2016 per Title 9, Article 8, Subsection 620. This was altered to “Acting Director and Behavioral Health Administrator” in Late March 2017 which is intended to be a long-term position requiring annual re-approval of the “Interim” status by the State Department of Health.
- F9. The proposal to the BOS for consideration of an Umbrella Agency was made with a limited survey of several other California counties of similar size to the County who are currently using such an agency. It contained largely positive/supportive findings.
- i.e. A more complete picture of the advantages and shortcomings of an “umbrella agency” should be thoroughly researched and the findings presented to the BOS. Specific attention be given to other counties/states experiences with BH operations as well as specific financial management successes or difficulties that have occurred.
- F10. No other gathering of supportive information was given to the BOS, specifically in cases where the Umbrella Agency concept was adopted then subsequently greatly altered or abandoned.
- i.e. An extensive set of “open hearings” should occur before any decisions are finalized. These should include in-county experts and other interested professionals with applicable knowledge and experience. A public hearing to allow for individuals or families that could be affected to have an understanding of the concept and to voice supportive or non-supportive opinions. The operation of the multiple agencies should seek efficiencies and cost control. It is important to note they are not “businesses” and cannot be operated entirely as a standard business would function. Patient consideration and focus on measurable health results must have great sway when considering financial and administrative actions.
- F11. Current plans to create such an umbrella agency are tabled due to financial limitations. There may be a two to three year delay before any substantive action is taken.
- F12. It was stated that there are to be “open hearings” on formation of such an agency prior to in going to the BOS for final consideration.

Recommendations:

- R1. Use two teams of two people each to prepare medication dosages. (F2, F4)
- R2. Broaden and improve nursing recruitment methods. (F3, F5)
- R3. Perform a formal full BOS review of goals, accomplishments, progress yearly for the “Acting Director of Behavioral Health” position prior to the requests for re-certification from the State Health Department of the “Interim Director” approval. (F6, F8)
- R4. Undertake a comprehensive study of the pros and cons of creating an umbrella agency to present to the BOS. (F9, F10)
- R5. Hold a series of open hearings within the next year before making any decisions on an umbrella agency. (F6, F12).
- R6. Any decision to consolidate various agencies under an umbrella agency be given serious consideration of both positive potential financial/cost benefits as well as potential negative non-financial results. (F9, F10, F13)
 - i.e: With more limited time to allot to each department under its supervision, it is understandable that the BOS would want to minimize the number of those individuals. Other non-managerial needs can detract from the BOS’s time on individual departments, and non-planned issues (such as the recent massive fires) can further reduce such managerial time. Many BOS members also have other non-governmental businesses and responsibilities they must consider. However, consolidation of multiple responsibilities and their associated budgets into too few individuals might foster the appearance of oligarchic aspects (with approximately 71% by budget of the BOS supervised groups falling under just two individuals) not in keeping with the expectations of the citizens of the County.

Request for Responses:

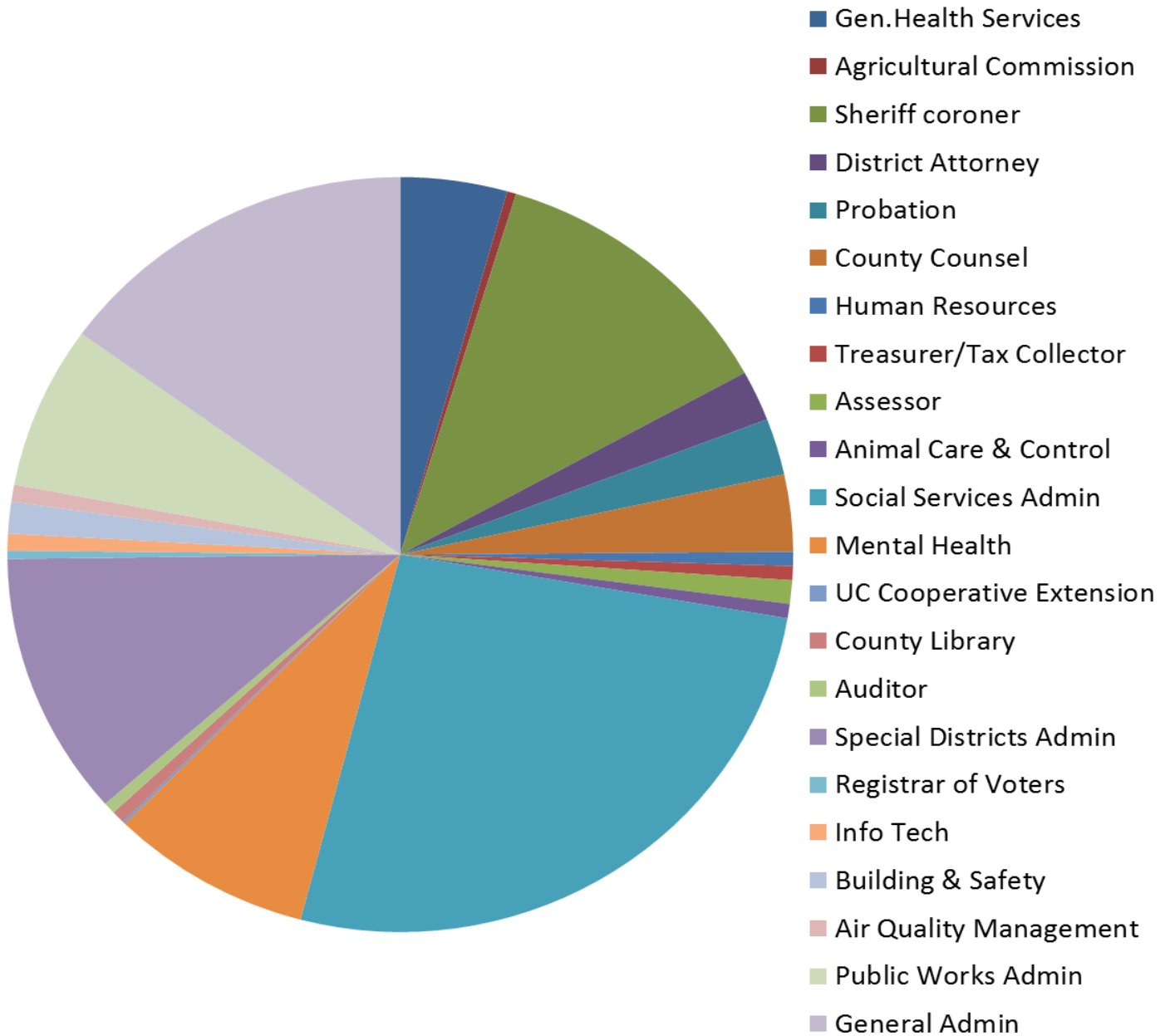
Pursuant to Penal Code §933(c), the following response is *required*:

- Board of Supervisors, R3, R5, R6 – (90 days)

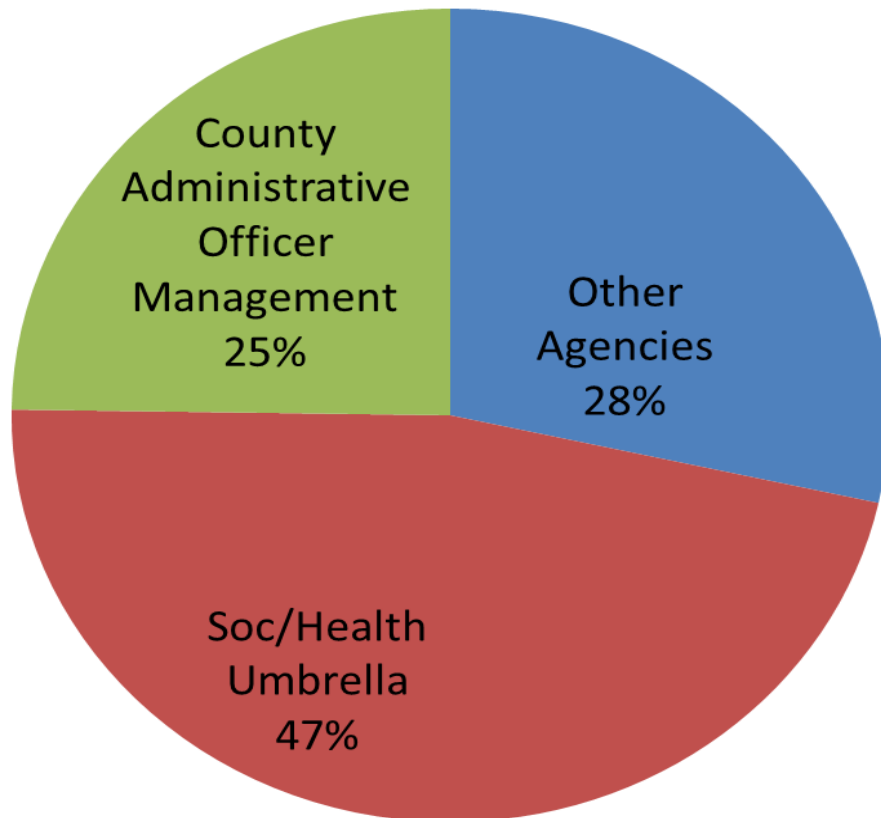
The Grand Jury *invites* the following individuals to respond:

- County Administrative Officer, R4, R6 – (60 days)
- Interim Director of Behavioral Health, R1, R2 – (60 days)

GRAPH #1
LAKE COUNTY BUDGET EXPENDITURES BY SECTOR



GRAPH #2
LAKE COUNTY BUDGET EXPENDITURES
UNDER BOS MANAGEMENT



Social Services Guardianship Program

Summary:

The Social Services Department (SSD) of Lake County (County) performs a wide variety of assistance and protective services for both juvenile and adults in need. Included is the Adult Guardianship Program that covers both court mandated “Probate” guardianships and “LPS” guardianships (LPS is derived from the initials of the last names of the authors of the bill establishing this program).

The Grand Jury found the programs, as well as the entire department, to be well run, adequately financed, and staffed with properly trained and highly motivated people.

Background:

Adult public guardianship is comprised of two specific types:

- court mandated “Probate” guardianship to care for a person who cannot care for him/herself or his/her finances, and
- court mandated “LPS” guardianship to care for a mentally ill person as defined by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

Methodology:

Grand Jury held interviews with management staff of County SSD, Lower Lake.

Discussion and Analysis:

The caseloads of the Public Guardianship specialists, as well as the caseloads in other important service areas, are within the general guidelines established by the state and range from twelve per specialist to seventeen per specialist. This insures high quality coverage and interactions from the SSD and its variety of clients.

The primary focusses of the County SSD for adult guardianship are on abuse or neglect. As in any difficult public oversight situation, it is possible for concerns or complaints to arise. The SSD has a thorough “peer review” process for such instances in which multiple staff are engaged as a group to look into and analyze any such issues. This process has met with universal approval from all levels of SSD staff and has resulted in a minimal number of issues not being quickly and thoroughly resolved.

Probate clients fall into the following age ranges

- 30 – 39 one client
- 40 – 49 one client
- 50 – 59 one client
- 60 – 69 eleven clients
- 70 – 79 nine clients
- 80 – 89 five clients
- 90 + three clients

LPS clients fall into the following age ranges:

- 22 – 29 seven clients
- 30 – 39 five clients
- 40 – 49 eight clients
- 50 – 59 four clients
- 60 – 69 seven clients
- 70 – 79 two clients
- 90+ one client
- One client is under Tribal oversight

- The majority of Probate guardianships involves seniors and the elderly. LPS guardianships are spread across a broad spectrum of age ranges.
- Staffing and services are well covered.

Finding:

F1. The SSD Guardianship Program is operating efficiently with funding from both the County and the State of California. The best interests of its clients and the County are well served.

Planning and Public Works



**Grand Jury Art Contest Winner Ages 6-8
Alexis Robbins, Age 6**

Why Do We Pay Those #*!@ Rates?

Summary:

Water is a necessity for all households and a large part of the family budget. The Lake County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) identified 222 water systems in Lake County of which 92 are currently operative. Water is indispensable for household use, agriculture, industrial uses and for the natural environment including wildlife and plants. We simply cannot survive without water. Water rights and water uses have long been major social and political issues in California. Add to this the occurrence of prolonged drought and these problems are multiplied.

The 2016-2017 Grand Jury decided to review the varying rates for customers in Lake County. The Grand Jury found a wide disparity in the water rates between public and private for-profit companies. As of 2016 the monthly charge ranged from \$20.00 to over \$128.00. The Grand Jury focused on the amount paid for water, how rates are calculated, the source of water, and what can be done to control water rates. Water rates are not arbitrary. They are determined by a number of factors including the number of customers in the system, costs to maintain the system, source of the water supply, and the type of infrastructure needed to deliver the water to its customers

The Grand Jury concludes that Lake County Special Districts is doing a commendable job of managing the ten companies under their control. Considerable restoration, re-structuring and updating of our water systems is currently in progress after the series of damaging fires the county has experienced.

Our investigation includes a brief explanation of sewage disposal in Lake County since most water customers either have a sewer bill attached to their water bill or are billed separately for sewer. The pipeline to the Calpine Geothermal fields proves to be a very efficient way to dispose of our waste water.

Background:

Lake County topography is dominated by the largest fresh water lake in California that is completely within the borders of the State. One might think that, with this much water close at hand; water would be a lesser issue in Lake County. On the contrary, many citizens of the County are acutely concerned about the quality, reliability and the cost of their water supply. This quality is an extra concern for systems drawing water directly from the lake due to the constant change in water quality in the lake. Lake County is divided into approximately 222 water systems that range in size from 1 to nearly 3000 hookups. Some systems rely on sources that do not supply a reliable and safe supply of water such as drawing water directly from a stream or pond.

Of the 222 systems identified, 92 are currently active. These systems were developed over the years as Lake County developed. Small subdivisions and mobile home parks developed their own systems to provide water to the residents of the development. Many of these systems were started before there was any regulation of water systems.

Most customers draw their water from the three main types of water systems in Lake County: independent public water systems, County administered dependent water systems, or private for-profit systems. Public water systems can be dependent on County administration under Special Districts or independent of County administration and operated by a Board of Directors. In addition, there are at least two privately held systems in Lake County and these are operated as for profit companies. There are ten water systems in Lake County that are under Special Districts, ten that are Independent Districts and two private for profit companies. Examples of a privately held company would be California Water Company in Lucerne and Golden State Water Company in Clearlake. The rates for these companies are controlled by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).

As many rate payers are aware, the cost of water varies over a wide range between the different water systems. As of 2016 the monthly charge ranged from \$20.00 to over \$128.00. Considerable efforts are underway to reduce the higher rates in a couple of the water systems. The number of households that share the infrastructure and maintenance of a water system are two of the factors that determine water rates. Other factors also contribute, such as the source of the water, the type of infrastructure that is needed to obtain and deliver the water to the customers, and depreciation fees. Sources of water include the lake, wells, springs, and creeks, or some combination thereof. By law, public water systems may not charge customers more than the cost of producing and delivering the water. There are however, water systems in Lake County that are privately owned and operate as for profit businesses. Water companies under the control of Lake County do not make a profit. (See Appendix One)

Methodology:

Interviewed:

The Board of the Cobb Area Water District.

The Lake County Department of Special Districts.

Studied on line resources as identified in the Bibliography

Discussion and Analysis:

By law (Proposition 218: Right to Vote on Taxes Act, 1996) County controlled water systems may not change their water rates without a vote of the customers in that system. A majority of the customers of a water system must approve any increases in rates. Individuals who do not respond after notification are

considered “yes” votes. Cost of living adjustments are built into some water rates and changes in the rate can occur due to this factor.

The recent fires in Lake County have damaged or destroyed some of the water systems and sewer infrastructure in some areas of the County, especially Cobb Mountain and Anderson Springs. Some property owners in the fire zones are rebuilding, while others have abandoned their properties without plans for rebuilding. These systems will have to be restored. The State of California is encouraging the consolidation of these water systems to better serve the customers and increase the quality of the water supply. In the Cobb area, the County is planning to consolidate eight systems into one. This consolidation will have to be approved by the customers in the different systems and will have to undergo an extensive study. In Anderson Springs a new sewer system will have to be built before some residents are allowed to rebuild. (See Appendix Two)

The process to update these systems takes time, study, and the approval of customers. The decrease in the number of residents, because of the fire damage, has resulted in a much lower property tax base and a reduction of funds necessary for the rebuilding and maintaining of systems.

Lake County has a very unique and efficient way of disposing of the effluent from the sewer systems. Since 1997 most waste water in Lake County is sent via a 50 mile-long pipeline to the Geysers Geothermal fields on Cobb which is operated by the Calpine Corporation. This system solves most environmental issues associated with effluent disposal and also provides a reduced rate for some Lake County electricity use. This sewer system is under the control of Special Districts. Sewer rates for customers are under the same proposition 218 guidelines as water rates. Lake County does not pay for the disposal of effluent to the Geysers. Lake County does pay to maintain the pipeline to the Geysers but is reimbursed for maintenance costs by Calpine. (See Appendix Three)

Findings:

- F 1. It is not possible for the Grand Jury to report on all water systems in Lake County because some of these are privately owned.
- F 2. The Lake County Special Districts Department is doing a commendable job of managing the ten companies under their control.
- F 3. Water rates in Lake County vary greatly between water districts and privately held companies.
- F 4. Recent wildfires have had a major impact on water and sewer districts in the areas where the fires destroyed homes and water and sewer system infrastructure. These systems will have to be restored.
- F 5. State and Federal grants and loans are helping with the financing of the restoration of water systems in the fire zones, but other financing is still under consideration and being applied for by Lake County. The writing of

grants takes a special expertise to ensure that the grant is accepted, as of 2016 there is not a designated grant writer in Lake County.

- F 6. The Cobb Mountain Water District (CMWD) is doing a commendable job restoring water systems in the Cobb area.
- F 7. Consolidation of water systems generally saves the customers money and improves water quality.
- F 8. Not all water systems in Lake County are under government control and their water can be from dubious sources such as drawing water from streams, creeks, and ponds without proper treatment.
- F 9. The pipeline to the Geysers Geothermal field is a very efficient way to dispose of and use waste water in Lake County.

Recommendations:

- R 1. Lake County should pursue every available resource to rebuild the damaged and destroyed water systems as quickly as possible. (F4, F5, F7)
- R 2. The public needs to be informed about the factors that determine water rates in the different water systems so that they will not feel that these are arbitrary or unfair. (F2, F6)
- R 3. Lake County should streamline the rebuilding process for those affected by fire so the property tax base can be increased. (F4, F5)
- R 4. Lake County should continue to consolidate water systems in order to provide better water quality and possibly lower rates to customers. (F7)
- R 5. Lake County needs to have a grant writer knowledgeable in the process of applying for State and Federal grants. (F4, F5)

Request for Responses:

Pursuant to Penal Code section 933(c), the following response is *required*.

- Lake County Board of Supervisors (90 days)

The Grand Jury *invites* the following individuals to respond.

- Department Head of Lake County Special Districts (60 days)

Bibliography:

1. Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association www.hjta.org
2. Legislative Analyst's Office Understanding Proposition 218 (Right to Vote on Taxes Act, 1996) www.lao.ca.gov
3. www.waterboards.ca.gov
4. www.co.lake.ca.us

Appendix 1

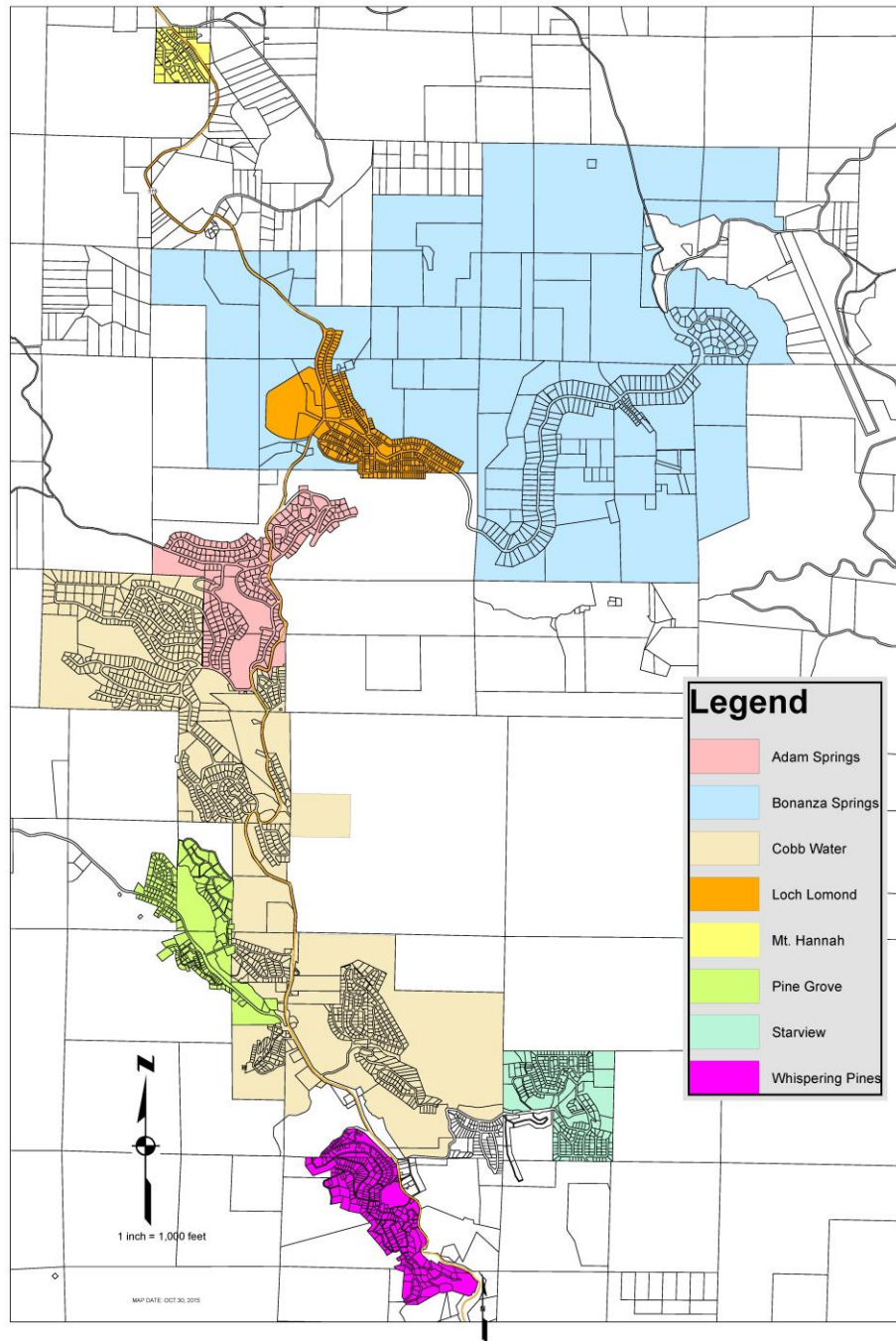
Charges for Single Family Residence

Single Family Residence						
City/Agency	Water Service Provider	Monthly Service Charge	Monthly Usage and Additional Charges	Total Month Charge	Billing Frequency	Total Monthly Charge Based on
Anderson Springs	Anderson Springs Com. Service District	\$ 36.00		\$ 36.00	Monthly	N/A
Bonanza Springs	Bonanza Springs Water	\$ 19.10	\$ 15.45	\$ 34.55	Bi-Monthly	750cf
Buckingham	Buckingham Park County Water District	\$ 52.26	\$ 27.03	\$ 79.29	Monthly	750cf
Clearlake	California Cities Water(Golden State Water)	\$ 49.80	\$ 35.40	\$ 85.20	Monthly	750cf
Clearlake	Konocti County Water District	\$ 30.00	\$ 0.23	\$ 30.23	Bi-Monthly	750cf
Clearlake	Highlands Water	\$ 33.00		\$ 33.00	Monthly	750cf
Clearlake	Golden State Water	\$ 76.25	\$ 35.40	\$111.65	Monthly/Bi-Monthly	750cf
Clearlake Oaks	Clearlake Oaks Water District	\$ 29.31	\$ 21.46	\$ 50.77	Monthly	750cf
Clearlake Riviera	Mount Konocti Water	\$100.00		\$ 100.00	Monthly	750cf
Cobb Area	Mount Hannah Water	\$ 30.45	\$ 33.33	\$ 63.78	Bi-Monthly	750cf
Cobb Area	Cobb Area Water District	\$ 68.50		\$ 68.50	Bi-Monthly	750cf
Cobb Area	Starview Water	\$ 20.00		\$ 20.00	Bi-Monthly	750cf
Finley	Finley Water	\$ 13.09	\$ 21.09	\$ 34.18	Bi-Monthly	750cf
Hidden Valley	Hidden Valley Lakes Com. Service District	\$ 30.57	\$ 15.53	\$ 46.10	Monthly	750cf
Kelseyville	Kelseyville Water	\$ 28.89	\$ 21.74	\$ 50.63	Bi-Monthly	750cf
Kono Tayee	Kono Tayee	\$ 27.64	\$ 10.47	\$ 38.01	Bi-Monthly	750cf
Lakeport	City of Lakeport	\$ 34.85	\$ 22.08	\$ 56.93	Monthly	750cf
Loch Lomond	Cobb Area Water District	\$ 45.00	\$ 14.40	\$ 59.40	Monthly	750cf
Lower Lake	Lower Lake County Water	\$ 59.64	\$ 5.25	\$ 64.89	Monthly	750cf
Lucerne	California Water Service	\$ 47.31	\$ 80.49	\$127.80	Bi-Monthly	750cf
Middletown	Callayomi County Water District	\$ 44.50		\$ 44.50	Monthly	750cf
Nice	Nice Mutual Water	\$ 40.00	\$ 51.13	\$ 91.13	Monthly	750cf
North Lakeport	North Lakeport Water	\$ 22.66	\$ 8.55	\$ 31.21	Bi-Monthly	750cf
Paradise	Paradise Water	\$ 54.38	\$ 74.16	\$ 128.54	Bi-Monthly	750cf
Riviera West	Riviera West Mutual	\$ 81.72	\$ 0.36	\$ 82.08	Bi-Monthly	750cf
Soda Bay Area	Soda Bay Water	\$ 28.90	\$ 28.50	\$ 57.40	Bi-Monthly	750cf
Spring Valley	Spring Valley Water	\$ 25.00	\$ 11.33	\$ 36.33	Bi-Monthly	750cf

Appendix 2

Consolidation of Cobb Water Districts

MOUNTAIN WATER SYSTEMS



Appendix 3

History of Calpine Pipeline

Lake County California

Effluent Pipeline

Wastewater reuse is a Special Districts initiative to recycle treated effluent for creation of wildlife habitat, irrigation of agricultural lands, and generation of geothermal power. Special Districts injection of effluent at the Geysers for geothermal steam production and power generation is the first of its kind in the world. The agency's goal is to maximize the energy, environmental, and economic benefits that wastewater reuse can achieve for Lake County.



Effluent pipeline construction

Effluent Recycling Pipeline

At the heart of the wastewater reuse system is a 50-mile pipeline that collects effluent from ten communities for injection in the Geysers geothermal steamfield. The first phase of the recycling pipeline was completed in 1997 between the Southeast Regional and Middletown treatment plants and the Geysers; the first segment of the Phase 2 pipeline was completed in 1999 with connection of the Clearlake Oaks treatment plant to the system; and the remainder of the Phase 2 pipeline to the Northwest Regional treatment plant was completed in 2003.

The system's first phase delivers an average of 5,400 gpm to geothermal injection wells operated by the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) and Calpine Corporation. These industry partners have achieved a 70 MW increase in generating capacity since Phase 1 operations began. Phase 2 has increased effluent injection volume by approximately 20% in normal weather years, and by as much as 150% in drought years.

Lake County California

Pipeline History

In the 1980s, LACOSAN found its wastewater systems in need of treatment and disposal upgrades because of growth pressures. At the same time, the region's geothermal industry began to experience productivity declines in the nearby Geysers steamfield. Approximately seven percent of California's electricity has been generated at the Geysers since the 1970's, but power plant steam usage was exceeding the steamfield's natural recharge rate and steam production was falling. The geothermal heat source remained constant, but injection of additional water was needed to convey the geothermal heat to steam production wells. A survey was conducted in 1990-91 of potential injection water sources available in the region, including surface water, groundwater, and wastewater. That survey concluded that surface and groundwater supplies were already committed to other uses, but that wastewater could achieve two critical objectives at once: first, as a continuous supply of steamfield recharge water that could help mitigate Geysers productivity declines; and second, as an effluent disposal method that would be environmentally-superior to conventional surface water discharge or land irrigation methods.

Once the effluent injection concept emerged, the key stakeholders formed a public/private partnership to confirm project feasibility and pursue implementation. This core group included LACOSAN and the main geothermal operators in the southeast portion of the Geysers, including Northern California Power Agency (NCPA), Calpine Corporation, Unocal Corporation, and Pacific Gas & Electric Company. (Calpine has since acquired Unocal's and PG&E's interests in the Geysers).

Phase 1 groundbreaking for the project was held on October 6, 1995, and following two years of construction, the pipeline was formally dedicated on October 16, 1997. The total construction cost was \$45 million, including \$37 million for the pipeline and \$8 million in wastewater system improvements. Construction costs were shared by the core participants, known as the Joint Operating Committee (JOC), with additional funding from the California Energy Commission, California Water Resources Control Board, U.S. Department of Energy, US Department of Commerce, US Department of the Interior, and US Environmental Protection Agency. Additionally, the geothermal industry partners invested several million dollars in secondary pipelines to distribute the effluent from the main pipeline to injection wells in the Geysers steamfield.

Phase 2 of the project began in 1999 with extension of the pipeline from LACOSAN's Southeast Treatment Plant to the Clearlake Oaks' treatment plant at a cost of approximately \$1 million. The Oaks treatment plant is operated by the Clearlake Oaks County Water District, who shared construction costs with the California Water Resources Control Board and LACOSAN. Phase 2 proceeded in 2000 with the construction of the project's first wetland at Lyons Creek near Lakeport. This 22-acre facility contains four wetland cells and a system of interpretive trails and signage for wildlife viewing and education. The Lyons Creek construction cost of \$600,000 was shared by LACOSAN and US EPA. The 20-mile Phase 2 pipeline was finished in early 2003 at a total cost of approximately \$30 million, which was shared again by the system's co-funding partners.

The JOC members have entered into a 25-year operating agreement wherein LACOSAN operates the pipeline as far as the Middletown Wastewater Treatment Plant/Bear Canyon "0" Pump Station, after which it is industry-operated to its terminus in the southeast Geysers steamfield. LACOSAN pays an annual operation and maintenance (O&M) cost share equivalent to conventional effluent disposal, and the industry partners pay remaining O&M costs based on the quantity of effluent they each receive at their injection wellheads. LACOSAN is responsible for operating the project's wetlands at the NW facility.

Lake County Not Fully Prepared For ZIKA Virus



Summary:

Lake County Vector Control (LCVC) is responsible for abatement of mosquitoes (genus *Culex*) that act as vectors to carry West Nile Virus (WNV), and other diseases. WNV currently exists in Lake County (County), and LCVC is doing a commendable job controlling it.

A different mosquito carries the Zika disease (genus *Aedes*) and this mosquito is not yet established in the County. The insect is spreading from South America to more northerly latitudes, and likely to arrive in the County eventually. Thus far the only case of Zika virus that has occurred in the County was in an individual who had traveled to South America. The Zika-infected mosquito however, has not been found in the County.

Because Zika is likely to arrive in the County eventually, LCVC needs to prepare to deal with it now. This will require the formulation and implementation of a plan to deal with this particular mosquito that is different from the mosquitoes that now live in the County. Planning to deal with the mosquitos that can carry the Zika virus should include consideration of protection of the beneficial insects and other wildlife that could be harmed if the use of pesticides is not carefully targeted and limited.

This Grand Jury found that LCVC is not fully prepared for the arrival of the Zika-carrying mosquito. Recommendations include implementing steps to address this deficit. The Grand Jury has a great deal of confidence in the ability and commitment of LCVC to do this.

Background:

West Nile Virus

West Nile Virus (WNV) is a virus that circulates mainly between birds and mosquitoes. If a human is bitten by an infected mosquito, the human can become infected too. In most people, the symptoms of WNV infection are relatively mild, but a few individuals become very ill (about 1 in 150 infected people according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC)). The severe symptoms can include high fever, headache, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, vision loss, numbness and paralysis (see CDC fact sheet).

Obviously, it is important to do whatever can be done to prevent WNV from infecting the people of the County. That is one of the roles of the LCVC. The principal way that the spread of WNV can be controlled is by the eradication of the mosquitoes that carry the virus. LCVC works to eradicate mosquitoes by the use of

pesticides, mosquito-eating fish, elimination of habitat, and public education on control and avoidance of mosquito bites. WNV-infected mosquitos currently exist in the County, so the effort to control it is a never-ending job.

Zika Virus

Zika is another mosquito-borne virus. Unlike WNV it does not have an intermediate host in birds or other animals. Zika virus is transmitted back and forth between mosquitoes and people. Zika virus first appeared in South America and has spread northward, notably to Florida. The mosquito that transmits Zika is spreading slowly from south to north in the western hemisphere. Zika can also be carried to new locations by people who are infected. A person who visits a Zika area, such as South America, can bring the virus back to their home in California or elsewhere. Zika can spread from person to person by sexual transmission.

So far, Zika has occurred in the U.S. mainly in Florida. There have been a few cases brought by persons who have traveled to areas where Zika is established.

Zika infection in humans is relatively new, so there is still a lot that is not known about its effects, especially long term. One effect that is well known is that Zika can cause severe birth defects if a pregnant woman becomes infected. The main birth defect that is associated with Zika infection is microcephaly. Babies born with microcephaly have abnormally small heads, and depending on the severity of the infection have decreased intelligence and severe neurological problems. Frankly this effect is very scary, and can lead to sensational fears about the spread of Zika virus.

The good news is that the mosquito that carries Zika virus does not occur in the County. It is unknown whether this particular mosquito species would be able to establish itself in the County, but LCVC should prepare for it. The only known case of Zika infection in the County was an individual who had traveled to an area where Zika was established and brought the disease back with them.

It is likely that Zika virus may spread to the County. The citizens of the County are aware of the existence of Zika virus and of the dramatic effects that it may cause. Recent research (Cohen in Bibliography) suggests that people exposed to WNV may be more vulnerable to Zika infection. As WNV is endemic in Lake County, County residents may possibly be at greater risk for Zika. LCVC is well aware of this issue and is staying on top of developments.

County residents may be concerned about Zika virus, and are likely to be more concerned if they are poorly informed. Therefore, a good public information and education program is necessary in order to minimize any unfounded fears that people may have. In addition to the need for public information, LCVC should be prepared to deal with Zika virus in the event that it does appear in the County. The mosquito that carries Zika is similar to the other mosquitoes that LCVC is already dealing with. For the most part, the same control measures that are used against the WNV mosquito should also be applicable to controlling the Zika mosquito. Mosquito control is not a static field. It is an area of active research and experimentation. In addition to the use of pesticides, there are other methods that are being tried out in other parts of the country, including the use of genetically altered male mosquitoes

that produce non-viable offspring. An advantage of this method over chemical pesticides is that it kills only the targeted mosquitoes, and does not harm beneficial insects such as honey bees and butterflies.

It is likely that other methods are being developed or will be developed in the near future. LCVC needs to be fully informed and up to date on the progress in this field. This would involve keeping open all channels of communication with scientists and public health people who are working on vector control issues. The Grand Jury has a great deal of confidence in the ability and commitment of LCVC to do this.

Problems with the Use of Pesticides to Control Mosquitoes

The chemical pesticides used by LCVC are pyrethroids which are general purpose insecticides that kill all kinds of insects. Honey bees that are needed to pollinate crops, and other beneficial insects can also be killed by these pesticides. There are strategies that can be used to minimize the effects on beneficial insects that have to do mainly with the exact time and place where the pesticides are sprayed. Even so, it is not possible to eliminate all “collateral damage” to beneficial insects and other wildlife, such as birds.

LCVC needs to communicate actively with bee keepers and others who are interested in the welfare of beneficial insects. Bee keepers need to be informed about where and when pesticides are to be applied.

In order to minimize the harmful effects of pesticides, LCVC needs to make sure they are making full use of all other methods of pest control, including habitat destruction. Encouraging bats and other predators that prey on mosquitoes should also be used to the extent possible.

Methodology:

- Interview with the head of Lake County Vector Control
- Interview with head of Public Health
- Review of Documents (see Bibliography)
- Internet Research (see Bibliography)

Discussion and Analysis:

In general, LCVC appears to be doing a very good job of controlling vectors in the County, especially the mosquitoes that carry WNV. There are areas that may require additional attention from LCVC.

The pyrethroid pesticides used by LCVC are general-purpose insecticides that are not limited in their effect to the target species. These pesticides have the potential to harm honeybees, butterflies, other beneficial insects, birds, wildlife, and potentially human beings. Honeybees are essential for the pollination of crops that are essential to the economy of the County. It is well known that in recent years honeybee populations have been stressed and are in some cases declining. The cause of this

decline is not known, but is under intense investigation. It is likely that there are a variety of causes, widespread use of pesticides being one of them. There is a great deal of concern among agriculturalists about the use of pesticides in areas where honeybees are present.

There are ways to mitigate the effects of pesticide use on honeybees by being careful about the hours of application and the exact places where the pesticides are applied. Also the physical method of delivery (such as small droplet size) can help to protect honeybees. All of this requires communication between the agency using the pesticides, in this case LCVC, and the agricultural community that is dependent on bee pollination and the bee keepers themselves. Because beehives are often hauled around from location to location the beekeepers are not always present in the County, and communicating with them may be challenging. However, it is essential that communication must occur in order to insure that pesticides can be used with minimum harm to honeybee pollinators. The County should protect honeybees, other beneficial insects, birds and wildlife in general from the effects of pesticide spraying.

Be prepared to deal with the vectors of the Zika virus or other mosquito-borne diseases that are not yet present in the County.

Environmentalists and the public are also concerned about the effects of pesticides on butterflies and other non-target insects that are important to the natural ecosystems in a number of ways. This problem requires open communication between LCVC and the environmentalists and the public.

It appears likely that the *Aedes* mosquito that can act as a vector for Zika virus will arrive in the County eventually and begin to become established. Since residents of the County have no prior exposure to Zika or the other viruses that can be carried by the *Aedes* mosquito, they will have no immunity to these viruses. This lack of prior immunity “greatly increases the likelihood of severe epidemics.” (Powell, 2016)

In both of these areas, the public information and education aspect of the effort is key.

Findings:

- F 1. It is possible that the mosquitoes that transmit Zika virus will become established in the County in the future. When this happens, Zika virus could become a serious problem in the County.
- F 2. LCVC is effectively fighting WNV in the County.
- F 3. LCVC is effectively communicating with the public with regard to WNV.
- F 4. LCVC public information about the Zika virus is insufficient.
- F 5. Pesticides used in vector control can harm honeybees, beneficial insects and other wildlife unless care is taken to avoid collateral damage. Alternative methods are available including mosquito fish that are being used by LCVC.

Recommendations:

- R 1. County and LCVC should draft a plan, within one year, to fight the Zika-infected mosquito. The plan should include measures to protect beneficial insects and wildlife. (F1, F5)
- R 2. County and LCVC should develop an effective public education campaign to fight the Zika mosquito and the virus that involves all available media, including internet, newspaper, TV and radio within 18 months. (F1, F3, F4)
- R 3. LCVC should work closely with the County Public Health Department to fight Zika-infected mosquito and the virus. (F1, F3, F4)
- R 4. LCVC website should have more information on the Zika-infected mosquito and the virus. (F4)
- R 5. LCVC should educate property owners about predators that prey on mosquitos. For example, providing mosquito eating fish and encouraging homeowners to put up bat boxes. (F4, F5)

Request for Responses:

Pursuant to Penal code section 933(c), the following response is *required*.

- Lake County Board of Supervisors (90 days)

The Grand Jury *invites* the following to respond:

- Lake County Vector Control Board of Trustees (90 days)
- Director of Lake County Vector Control (60 days)
- Director of Lake County Public Health (60 days)

Glossary:

Aedes aegypti -- A species of mosquito that can act as a vector for Zika virus, dengue fever and yellow fever

Culex -- a genus of mosquito that is presently common in Lake County

Vector -- insects or other organisms that can transmit pathogenic viruses or other causes of disease

Vector control -- The elimination or abatement of vectors

West Nile Virus (WNV) – a pathogenic virus currently endemic to Lake County

Zika Virus – a pathogenic virus transmitted by mosquitoes that can cause severe health effects in humans, including birth defects such as microcephaly

Bibliography:

Articles:

Abrams, Susan, "As Zika spreads, leaders call for more money, education." *Lake County Record Bee*, September 21, 2016
Anonymous "Mosquitoes to the Rescue" *Scientific American*, November 2016, pg 17
Cohen, Jon "Dengue may bring out the worst in Zika." *Science* **355** (2017): 1362, 31 March 2017
Espinoza, Martin, "Zika virus precautions taken by Sonoma County officials," *Press Democrat*, August 1, 2016
Newton, Jim "Lake County Health Department warns of West Nile virus." *News-Sun*, August 1, 2016
Powell, Jeffrey, "Mosquitoes on the move," *Science* **354** (2016): 971

Powerpoint Presentation:

Scott, Jamesina, "An Introduction to the Lake County Vector Control District,"
Presented to the Grand Jury on September 19, 2016

Internet Search:

CDC Fact Sheets on Zika Virus, Centers for Disease Control, www.cdc.gov/zika
CNN.com, "What lessons did we learn from Zika spraying?" September 4, 2016

Appendix A

CDC Fact Sheet

ZIKA: THE BASICS OF THE VIRUS AND HOW TO PROTECT AGAINST IT



About Zika

Zika virus spreads to people primarily through the bite of an infected *Aedes* species mosquito (*Ae. aegypti* and *Ae. albopictus*). Zika can also be passed through sex from a person who has Zika to his or her sex partners and it can be spread from a pregnant woman to her fetus. People can protect themselves from mosquito bites and getting Zika through sex. This fact sheet explains who's most affected and why, symptoms and treatment, and how to protect against Zika.

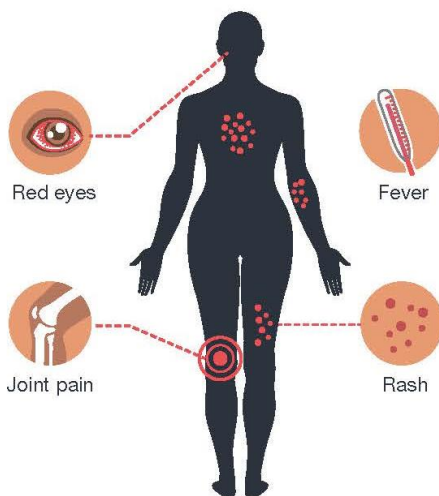
How Zika Spreads

Protect yourself and your family from mosquito bites all day and night, whether you are inside or outside. A mosquito becomes infected when it bites a person already infected with Zika. That mosquito can then spread the virus by biting more people.



Zika virus can also spread:

- During sex with a person who has Zika to his or her sex partners.
- From a pregnant woman to her fetus during pregnancy or around the time of birth.
- Through blood transfusion (likely but not confirmed).



Zika Symptoms

Many people infected with Zika won't have symptoms or will only have mild symptoms. The most common symptoms are fever, rash, joint pain, or red eyes. Other common symptoms include muscle pain and headache. Symptoms can last for several days to a week. People usually don't get sick enough to go to the hospital, and they very rarely die of Zika. Once a person has been infected with Zika, they are likely to be protected from future infections.

www.cdc.gov/zika

CS265799A August 12, 2016

Current Zika Outbreak

Zika outbreaks are currently happening in many countries and territories. The mosquitoes that can become infected with and spread Zika live in many parts of the world, including parts of the United States.

[Specific areas where Zika virus is spreading](#) are often difficult to determine and are likely to change over time. If traveling, please visit the [CDC Travelers' Health website](#) for the most recent travel information.



**U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services**
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

Why Zika is Risky for Some People

Zika infection during pregnancy can cause fetuses to have a birth defect of the brain called microcephaly. Other problems have been detected among fetuses and infants infected with Zika virus before birth, such as defects of the eye, hearing deficits, and impaired growth. There have also been increased reports of Guillain-Barré syndrome, an uncommon sickness of the nervous system, in areas affected by Zika.



Microcephaly

How to Prevent Zika

There is no vaccine to prevent Zika. The best way to prevent diseases spread by mosquitoes is to protect yourself and your family from mosquito bites. **Here's how:**



- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
- Stay in places with air conditioning and window and door screens to keep mosquitoes outside.
- Take steps to control mosquitoes [inside and outside your home](#).
- Treat your clothing and gear with permethrin or buy pre-treated items.
- Use [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)-registered](#) insect repellents. Always follow the product label instructions.
- When used as directed, these insect repellents are proven safe and effective even for pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- Do not use insect repellents on babies younger than 2 months old.
- Do not use products containing oil of lemon eucalyptus or para-menthane-diol on children younger than 3 years old.
- Mosquito netting can be used to cover babies younger than 2 months old in carriers, strollers, or cribs to protect them from mosquito bites.
- Sleep under a mosquito bed net if air conditioned or screened rooms are not available or if sleeping outdoors.
- [Prevent sexual transmission of Zika by using condoms or not having sex.](#)

What to Do if You Have Zika

There is no specific medicine to treat Zika. Treat the symptoms:

- Get plenty of rest.
- Drink fluids to prevent dehydration.
- Take medicine such as acetaminophen to reduce fever and pain.
- Do not take aspirin or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.
- If you are taking medicine for another medical condition, talk to your healthcare provider before taking additional medication.

To help prevent others from getting sick, strictly follow steps to prevent mosquito bites during the first week of illness.



www.cdc.gov/zika

How High Will The Water Rise?

Summary:

Despite a supply of accurate information, there remains a wide variety of opinions about the Cache Creek Dam (Dam) and the control Yolo County has on the Clear Lake water supply. Recent flooding of Clear Lake has sparked renewed interest in the Dam, how much water is released, and how decisions are made to release water from Clear Lake.

The Grand Jury discovered that contrary to what many believe, the Dam does not cause Clear Lake to flood. The 2016/2017 Lake County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) has tried to determine if there is a way to hasten the release of water from Clear Lake during floods. The Grand Jury has several recommendations that Lake County and Yolo County work together to mitigate flooding.



Flooded Campground 2017

Background:

Clear Lake is the largest and oldest natural fresh water lake in California.

- Because of its size of 68 square miles, Clear Lake responds slowly to storm events.
- Clear Lake was not created by a dam therefore the Dam is not the sole control of the water level.
- Flooding is caused by prolonged high intensity storms. Relief from flooding is slow because water enters Clear Lake at a much faster rate than it leaves.
- Clear Lake continues to rise even after the rains have stopped due to runoff from the surrounding hills.

Contrary to what people believe, Lake County never owned the water of Clear Lake as it is held in the public trust by the State of California. Yolo County owns the water rights to Clear Lake and operates the Cache Creek Dam. The people of Yolo County secured their claim under an appropriation law that was enacted in 1873. Lake

County never applied for water rights through some oversight so the rights to the water passed to Yolo County

Water can escape the Dam much faster than the narrow channel and Grigsby Riffle (Riffle) of Cache Creek will allow. The Riffle, which is a natural rock formation that can be observed from the Lake Street Bridge in Lower Lake (See Fig. 1). The bridge crosses Cache Creek approximately 1.5 miles downstream of Clear Lake.

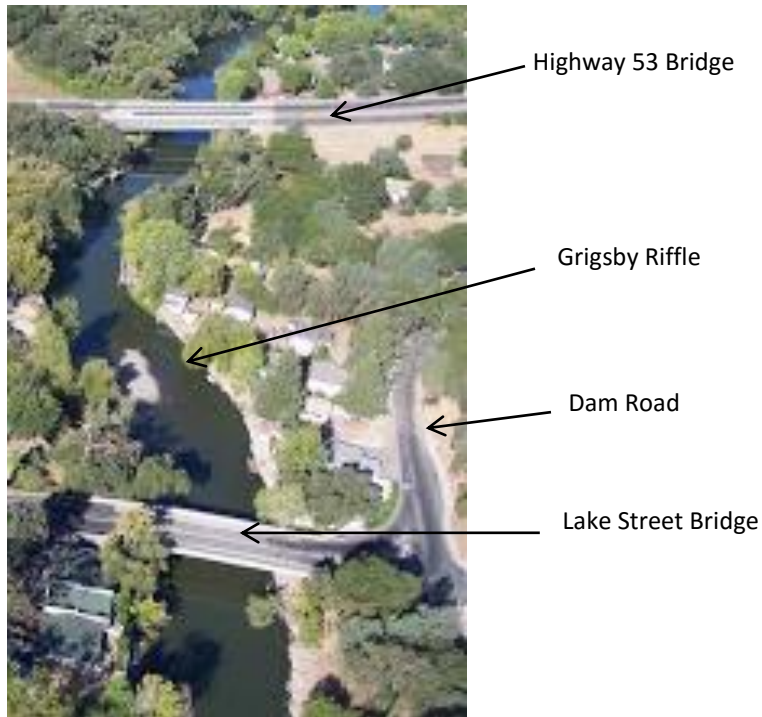


Figure 1 – Where is the riffle?

A unique feature to Clear Lake is the use of the Rumsey Gauge to measure water level. Captain Dewitt C. Rumsey was a cattle drive trail boss from Yolo County (in those days it was common to call the trail boss “captain”). The physical location of the Rumsey Gauge is actually on Esplanade Avenue in Lakeport. In 1872 Captain Rumsey decided to come up with a standard for measuring lake level. He decided that when water ceased to flow over the Riffle it would be “Zero Rumsey”. Water flowing above the Riffle would be called plus Rumsey while water below the riffle while water below the Riffle would be minus Rumsey. Clear Lake is full at 7.56 Rumsey or 1325.82 feet above sea level. The lake “full” level was determined by taking the average high water level between the years 1873 and 1920.

During the winter of 1937-38, flow tests were conducted to determine what would happen if there were no dam on Cache Creek. Dam gates remained fully open during the testing period. Peak inflows were estimated to be 41,000 cfs while the out flow at the Grigsby Riffle was 4,255 cfs. Clearly, the dam was not causing water to rise. In fact, records dating back to 1874 show the two highest lake levels of 13.66 and 13.38 were recorded before the dam was built.

In 1938 the Riffle was excavated to -2.3 Rumsey, however further excavation was stopped by the courts by the “Bemmerly Decree” in 1940 and is now prohibited.

The Solono Decree, enacted in 1978 and revised in 1995, governs the release of water from Clear Lake. Water can be withdrawn from the lake May through October only. The following chart shows the regulation of release of water from Clear Lake:

Lake Level	Allowable Seasonal Withdrawal
3.22 Rumsey or lower	0
3.5 Rumsey	7,847 acre-feet
4.0 Rumsey	21,593 acre-feet
4.5 Rumsey	35,423 acre-feet
5.0 Rumsey	49,353 acre-feet
5.5 Rumsey	63,403 acre-feet
6.0 Rumsey	83,350 acre-feet
6.5 Rumsey	104,785 acre-feet
7.0 Rumsey	126,400 acre-feet
7.56 Rumsey or higher	150,000 acre-feet *
*No matter how high the lake gets, this is the maximum allowable withdrawal of water.	

Methodology:

- The Grand Jury toured the Cache Creek Dam in the company of Lake County officials and Yolo County representatives.
- Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District General Manager gave a presentation of the history of the Riffle and the Dam.
- Online research regarding the Riffle and the Dam. Also the history of Clear Lake. [Bibliography 1]

Discussion and Analysis:

The dam is designed to release water up to 21,000 cubic feet per second (cfs), while Cache Creek will only allow water to leave at, 4,700 cfs when the lake level is at 11 feet Rumsey. (A typical in ground backyard swimming pool can be filled in one second at 2,700 cfs.)

The use of the Rumsey Gauge to measure water level is unique to Clear Lake. Other bodies of water are measured by their elevation above sea level. Using this method, the elevation of Clear Lake would be 1318.26 above sea level that would correlate to zero Rumsey.

Recent flooding has caused severe property damage to property owners and public lands around Clear Lake. Consequences of flooding include:

- many properties remained evacuated for days and sometimes weeks due to standing water,

- Lake County parks and public beaches are closed due to rising water and debris,
- tourism has been negatively affected because the lake has been closed to boats in an attempt to slow wave action which causes further damage to lakeside properties,
- floating debris from damaged docks, seawalls and fallen trees are hazardous to boats and passengers using the lake,
- many scheduled bass tournaments are canceled or postponed, and
- local businesses that cater to tourism such as tackle shops, hotels and restaurants are negatively affected.

Cleanup has been slow due to the length of time it takes water to recede after the rain has stopped. Floating debris is also a problem for the dam. Significant resources are needed to keep debris from plugging the dam. Some of this debris is manmade, such as ice chests, outdoor bar-b-ques, mattresses, destroyed docks, piers, seawalls, as well as other items swept away as the rising water rushes through flooded properties.

Silt and infill have caused the Riffle to grow over the years impairing the flow. Lake and Yolo Counties are discussing plans to excavate the Riffle back to its free flowing level of 1940.



Grigsby Riffle

Findings:

- F1. Cooperation between Lake and Yolo counties is essential to deal with the dredging of the Riffle and to control flooding in Lake County.
- F2. The public has many misconceptions about the release of water from Clear Lake to Yolo County.
- F3. Property owners have often been remiss in keeping debris out of the lake, including piers and old seawalls, etc.
- F4. The Rumsey scale has caused some problems for property owners because insurance companies use sea level measurements to assess property damage.
- F5. The environment and economic impact of dredging the Riffle have not been fully studied and evaluated.

Recommendations:

- R 1. Lake and Yolo Counties continue to work together to solve flooding problems in Clear Lake. (F1, F2)
- R 2. Lake and Yolo Counties work together to excavate the Grigsby Riffle to legal limits within two years. (F1, F2)
- R 3. The Department of Water Resources educate property owners before November 2017, about problems with debris that will block the dam. (F3)
- R 4. The County/Board of Supervisors consider using sea level measurements along with the Rumsey scale when measuring the level of the lake. (F4)
- R 5. Lake and Yolo Counties contract for a study of the environmental and economic impacts of dredging the Riffle. Report to be completed by June, 2018 (F5)
- R 6. The environmental and economic impact study investigate not only traditional, but also unconventional solutions to solve the flooding problem of Clear Lake. (F4, F5)

Request for Responses:

Pursuant to Penal Code section 933(c), the following response is *required*.

- Board of Supervisors (90 days)

The Grand Jury *invites* the following individuals to respond.

- Manager of Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (60 days)
- Lake County Director of Water Resources (60 days)

Bibliography

http://www.co.lake.ca.us/Government/Directory/Water_Resources/Clear_Lake_Information.htm

Public Safety



**Grand Jury Art Contest Winner Ages 6-8
Dominick Weaver, Age 8**

Mandated Inspections and Other Law Enforcement Facilities

Summary:

The State of California mandates (Penal Code §919 (b)) “The grand jury shall inquire into the conditions and management of the public prisons within the county”. This is interpreted as all locations where anyone can be incarcerated (from very short-term to long terms).

The various facilities within the County are covering their areas of responsibility well. There are notable budgetary and staffing limitations that negatively impact effectiveness and efficiency. All of the Public Safety entities handle these difficult tasks and people with professionalism and competence.

Methodology:

Having completed these inspections over several months, the 2016-2017 Lake County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) findings for each location are summarized below.

Discussion and Analysis:

1.) County Courthouse temporary holding facility:

The Grand Jury found this area to be well-run and proper levels of detail given to facilitating the flow of inmates/defendants through the county judicial procedures as well as maintaining good staff and public safety protections. The facilities are appropriate for their needs and the staff is well trained and motivated. An issue exists with repair/replacement of the secondary automotive security gate in the inmate entrance/transfer garage. County law enforcement and buildings maintenance departments are aware of the problem. Again, this is budget dependent.

2.) Clearlake Police Department temporary holding cells:

This facility is well run and appropriately staffed. All sections within the Police Department are efficient and well maintained. Improvements in the overall facility in recent years have included updating communications and dispatch capabilities, readily available body cameras for the officers, and a separate ‘sally port’ for movement of arrestees into and out of the facility.

3.) Lake County Sheriff’s Department:

In addition to inmate holding/housing facilities, the Grand Jury looked into ‘training procedures’ utilized by our Sheriff’s Department. Most of the staff/officers come from a variety of training facilities or previous employment organizations. Concerns have been raised as to the “Lake County specific” training to insure up-to-date and across the board training and procedures for all patrol officers. This also includes compliance in areas most likely to have the greatest potential number of general public interfaces. The training procedures and implementation by our Sheriff’s Department

were thorough and exceeded California statewide standards and our expectations in all areas.

4.) Lakeport City Police Department:

The City of Lakeport has recently moved to a new facility on South Main Street. They have elected not to occupy or maintain a holding facility at the new location. They have indicated that they would use the County facility on Hill Road.

5.) Konocti Conservation Camp:

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation along with Cal Fire operate the Conservation Camp. Their contributions to the county during the recent fires of the last two years have been invaluable.

Due to AB109 and the Public Safety Realignment Act, many of the inmates classified as “non-serious, non-violent, non-sexual-felony” (N3) are being moved to county facilities from state prisons. This has reduced the number of inmates eligible for Camp programs across the state. While discussions with the County have begun, no resolutions have been made regarding inclusion of county inmates.

All portions of this facility are well maintained.

Finding:

F1. All facilities are doing their jobs well; the Grand Jury commends the staff and procedures they are using.

Hill Street Blues

Summary:

The Hill Road Detention Center is the main transfer and housing facility for those incarcerated in Lake County (County). This facility, while overcrowded, is largely fulfilling the expectations of the public safety departments and the County.

The 2016-2017 Lake County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) found that the main security and control monitoring room is inadequately staffed. We recommend that there be a minimum of two staff members at all times.

Background:

The Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) recently inspected the facility and found most elements to be completely satisfactory in all areas. Their sole notable exception was in some areas of “overcrowding” beyond the recommended inmate occupation limits. We note that overcrowding is a problem in every county facility in California. This is due to the federal mandated reduction of populations in the state prison system. Due to AB109 and the Public Safety Realignment Act many of the inmates classified as “non-serious, non-violent, non-sexual-felony” (N3) are being moved to county facilities from state prisons. There is no short-term or fiscally viable solution to this problem at this time.

Methodology:

The Grand Jury conducted a site visit and interviewed a random sample of staff and inmates.

Discussion and Analysis:

The Grand Jury found a well-maintained and well-run facility with most areas meeting or exceeding expectations. The Grand Jury specifically looked into several additional areas of concern including:

- a.) the handling of inmates with mental/developmental or behavioral issues.
These cases are handled by protocols of working with medical facilities, County Behavioral Health staff, and significant internal training for all levels of the Detention Center staff. The Grand Jury was completely satisfied in this area.
- b.) the handling of specific prescribed medications with unique application or dosage requirements on an individual inmate basis.
The on-site nursing staff demonstrated the extremely efficient and appropriate methods they consistently utilize to insure complete compliance and patient care in this area.

The area raising some concern for the Grand Jury was in the area of staffing in the “control/monitoring” room. This is where all inmate surveillance cameras and system alarms are watched/monitored. Normal operation is for a single staff member to monitor the many video screens and other electronic sensors spread across the

room. Normally this is adequate. However, if any anomaly or disturbance were occurring in one area, the attention of the single staff member could be diverted away from any issues/problems in other areas. Staffing limitations (due to budgetary issues) make assigning additional trained staff unlikely.

Finding:

- F1. The staffing of the Hill Road Facility Control/Monitoring room is inadequate.

Recommendation:

- R 1. Two people should staff the Hill Road Facility Control/Monitoring room at all times. (F1)

Request for Responses:

Pursuant to Penal Code section 933(c), the following response is *required*.

- Lake County Sheriff (60 days) (R1)

Juvenile Hall

Summary:

Since 2015, Lake County (County) incarcerated juveniles are housed with Mendocino County juveniles in the Ukiah facility.

The two-year contract to facilitate this has produced more up to date facilities to accommodate our juveniles. This contract resulted in significant cost savings to the County.

The facility has met all criteria expected during this combination. The success rate for educational improvement and reduction of recidivism was impressive. During the 2016-2017 Lake County Grand Jury's (Grand Jury) visit, it was noted that the morale of the County's youth has vastly improved.

However, the contract needs serious review before the renewal due in September of 2017.

Background:

When the youths were housed in Lake County it was noted that:

- The facility did not meet Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) requirements. The cost to update the facility would have been prohibitive.
- Mandatory educational requirements were not consistently enforced.
- Standards of conduct were not well established or maintained.

Methodology:

The Grand Jury:

- Performed a site inspection and interviewed several staff and youth.
- Interviewed Lake County Probation Department personnel.
- Reviewed the original contract between Lake and Mendocino counties.

Discussion and Analysis:

The individual housing units, the medical oversight and the on-going education facilities were all very good. The food service was well run and effective. The overall staffing was well trained and competent.

Mendocino County put in Skype capabilities for communication between Lake County youth and their families. "Skyping" is also being used as a tool for screening in mental health assessments.

The two-year contract for housing our juveniles in Ukiah is due for renewal. The contract needs serious review before the renewal due in September of 2017.

Elements in Lake County believe the contract was rapidly prepared and approved and as such it needs improvement.

The Grand Jury did have several major concerns with the contract between Lake County and Mendocino County:

- a) The requirements for quarterly meetings, between appropriate staff of both Lake County Probation Department and Mendocino County Probation Department (the controlling agencies), have not been carried out during the first year. The contractually stipulated quarterly reports had not been issued. Those have now been instituted and reports have been issued in October 2016, and February 2017. As of the writing of this report, the next scheduled meeting is March 15, 2017.
- b) There were concerns raised by the Mendocino Juvenile Hall staff that “mental health” issues with the County juveniles have not been appropriately handled. The existing contract provisions are very ambiguous and need to be defined.
- c) Investigations revealed that from the beginning of the contract period, Redwood Children’s Services, Inc. (RCS) was providing Mental/Behavioral Health services and interventions. The Mendocino County Youth Project was stipulated in the contract to be the mental health provider. Unexpectedly, the County received an invoice from RCS. This neither followed the formal procedure nor named organizations in the contract. On-site staff at the Juvenile Hall and appropriate similar staff in Lake County believe this was an oversight/mistake.

Findings:

- F 1. Due to the urgency of maintaining a proper facility for the youths, the contract was not given a thorough review and scrutiny before it was implemented.
- F 2. Formal quarterly meetings/reports were not held/issued for the first year of the contract.
- F 3. Coordination between the two county’s probation departments and Lake County Behavioral Health was not occurring and needs to be defined in the contract.

Recommendations:

- R 1. When the contract is re-negotiated, particular attention must be given to all the commitments and details. (F1, F3)
- R 2. Insure continuation of quarterly meetings/reports in a timely manner. (F2)

Request for Responses:

Pursuant to Penal Code section 933(c), the following response is *required*.

- Board of Supervisors (90 days)

The Grand Jury *invites* the following individuals to respond.

- Lake County Department of Probation (60 days)
- Mendocino County Department of Probation (60 days)
- Lake County Behavioral Health Department (60 days)

Public Services



**Grand Jury Art Contest Winner Ages 6-8
Opal Patton, Age 8**

Who Cares About Animals?



Summary:

There are two facilities in Lake County (County) that care for cats, dogs and other animals. One is the Lake County Animal Care and Control (LCACC) facility in Lakeport. The other is the Animal Control Unit in Clearlake. These two facilities provide essential services to the County, such as picking up stray animals and adopting out or euthanizing animals that they take in. Both facilities also provide vaccination, spay and neuter services. As the population grows, and the pet population grows with it, there will be a greater demand for these services. Our recommendations aim at meeting the increased demand. Both facilities could improve their public outreach. A program in schools would be helpful in getting the word out about responsible pet ownership.

Background:

Pets are an important part of life in the County. Pet ownership increases quality of life for many of our people.

An unfortunate side effect of the increase of the pet population is the County must deal with an increased number of stray and unwanted animals. Those animals are subject to adoption and/or euthanization. This is the responsibility of Animal Care and Control. There are two facilities for this in the County. One is the LCACC facility on Helbush Drive in Lakeport. This facility cares for animals from the entire County except for the City of Clearlake. The City of Clearlake has an Animal Control Unit facility located on Airport Road. It is a unit in the Clearlake Police Department. The facility will move to new buildings on Ogulin Canyon Road. In addition, a nonprofit organization called Animal Assist and Rescue in Lower Lake provides low and no cost spay and neutering services, distributes free pet food and helps find homes for unwanted pets. [Bibliography 3, 4]

Methodology:

Members of the Grand Jury visited the LCACC and the Clearlake Animal Control Unit. The Grand Jury also interviewed individuals responsible for their operation, and those directly involved with animal care. The Grand Jury also reviewed the websites of the two animal care facilities.

This report is the result of those activities.

Discussion and Analysis:

The LCACC facility consists of:

- a reception area for people and pets,
- offices for staff ,
- kennels for cats and dogs and outdoor areas for larger animals (horses, goats, pigs, etc.),
- a clinic for spaying and neutering of pets,
- an area for euthanizing animals,
- a walk-in refrigerated storage unit for dead animals, and
- an incinerator for disposing of dead animals.

The services provided by LCACC and the Clearlake facility include:

- taking in stray animals,
- holding animals until they can be adopted or euthanized,
- adopting out animals to other facilities or individuals when possible,
- spaying and neutering pets,
- vaccinating dogs and cats,
- euthanizing pets that either have not been adopted or are too sick to keep (Dogs are kept for a minimum of three or four days before euthanizing except in unusual circumstances), and
- disposing of dead animals brought in by citizens.

In recent years, the LCACC has improved its ratio of adopting to euthanizing. However, the demand for adoptable pets is limited in the County. Volunteers take some animals out of the county for adoption.

The staff of LCACC consists of a director, and a number of animal control officers, as well as office staff. Some of the office staff are volunteers. In addition, LCACC employs a part-time veterinarian as a contractor three days a week. The veterinarian's main function is to perform spaying and neutering at the Helbush Drive facility. There is a backlog for this much-needed function.

LCACC provides these services for the County with the exception of the City of Clearlake. Clearlake operates its own facility providing a similar array of services. The Clearlake facility resides temporarily in a converted hanger at the old airport. Clearlake will be building a new facility on Ogulin Canyon Road that should begin operating in the summer of 2017. Clearlake is planning a new facility that will feature a 100'X80' on a 22-acre lot.

LCACC currently uses the part-time service of a veterinarian under contract. The part time contract veterinarian who works for LCACC is providing a valuable service for the public because the cost to the public is less than from private veterinarians. Clearlake does not have a contract veterinarian. Clearlake relies on the services of local independent veterinarians.

Findings:

- F 7. The LCACC veterinarian's services are in high demand.
- F 8. Availability of spay and neuter services are inadequate in relation to public demands.
- F 9. LCACC veterinarian services to examine and treat sick animals are insufficient.
- F 10. The demand for spay and neuter operations at the Helbush facility is likely to increase in the immediate future as the number of stray animals grows every year.
- F 11. The lower fees LCACC can offer by employing a part-time contract veterinarian vs. private veterinary services incentivize low-income pet owners.
- F 12. In Clearlake, animal care services are unmet because there is no full-time veterinarian is available.
- F 13. Clearlake has a better public outreach program than LCACC. The outreach program consists of a website and brochures.
- F 14. Clearlake will be able to provide more and better services to the community in the new Oglin Canyon facility.

Recommendations:

The following recommendations are to meet the ever-increasing need for the services that the animal care and control facilities provide to the public.

- R 6. The County should consider adding a full-time veterinarian to the LCACC. (F1 through F5)
- R 7. Clearlake should consider hiring a full-time contract veterinarian, rather than getting veterinary services from local independent veterinarians on an as-needed basis. (F6)
- R 8. Alternatively, the County could collaborate with Clearlake to share a full-time veterinarian. (F1 through F7)
- R 9. The County should also consider training students as veterinary technicians to help with the veterinary services. (F2, F3, F4)
- R 10. LCACC should improve their public outreach program. A program in the schools would be helpful in getting the word out about responsible pet ownership. (F7, F8)
- R 11. Clearlake should stage a Grand Opening when the Ogulin Canyon Road facility opens as a way of letting the public know about their program and services offered. (F8)

Request for Responses:

Pursuant to Penal Code section 933(c), the following response is *required*.

- Board of Supervisors within 90 days

The Grand Jury *invites* the following individuals to respond.

- Director of Lake County Animal Control within 60 days
- Director of Clearlake Animal Control through the Clearlake Sheriff's Department within 60 days

Bibliography:

1. http://www.co.lake.ca.us/Government/Directory/Animal_Care_And_Control.htm (Lake County Animal Care and Control)
2. <http://www.clearlake.ca.us/211/Animal-Control> (City of Clearlake Animal Control)
3. Gruenk, Jennifer, "Pet pantry open to the public." *Lake County Record Bee*, February 4, 2017
4. Facebook.com/AnimalAssistandRescue/

Lake County Recycling

Summary:

“A nation that destroys its soils destroys itself. Forests are the lungs of our land, purifying the air and giving fresh strength to our people.”

- **Franklin Delano Roosevelt**

Many Lake County (County) citizens are aware that recycling is beneficial to themselves and to the environment. Some of the reasons that citizens recycle are:

1. It is easy. Recycling in the home, school and workplace is easy and convenient. It is been found that recycling in California is already diverting about 65% of their trash from the landfills.
2. It saves money. Buy recycled products and some products redeemable for cash.
3. It creates jobs. Recycling is a big business in California accounting for approximately 85,000 jobs and producing and producing 10 billion in products and services per year.
4. It saves energy. It takes 95% less energy to make some products out of recycled material than raw products.
5. It preserves natural products.

For complete details on local recycling you can look up “Recycling” in the Valley Yellow Pages (Addendum A), or call Lake County Public Services Department (707) 263-1980. The information is also online at: www.recycling.co.lake.ca.us

Background:

Some landfills are rapidly filling up. In Lake County (County) part of the problem is the refuse from the recent fires. New land is needed to expand the landfill. This will be expensive to the County and its citizens. The obvious way to ease the pressure on landfill use is to recycle as much material as possible.

Many County residents are already recycling as much as they can by using the blue recycling bins that are provided by the waste disposal services. In addition, some residents take materials to privately operated recycling centers to get cash for them.

These recycling centers are privately owned and operated. The County is not responsible for these privately operated recycling sites. They depend on the market price for recycled materials; thus, their existence and location is not always predictable. These locations can stay in business only as long as they remain profitable.

Some of the issues that can affect their profitability are:

- The value of recycled materials may decline until recycling is no longer profitable.
- Some consumers may fill recyclable items with rocks or sand to increase its weight. This is an attempt to fraudulently obtain excess funds. This causes the recycler to alter his business practice and reduces his profitability.
- The State of California does not reimburse the local recyclers in a timely manner. This delay may cause the local recyclers to stop business.

Lake County residents have been going to local recycling centers and finding that they are no longer there. These sites, located at various places in the County, are operated by private individuals. Often one has to go to the location and see whether the recycler is still operating at that location.

Since these local recycling businesses are not closely regulated. There is no central clearing-house to determine if they are still in business. The two main private facilities are: (will not pay redemptions)

- Southlake Recycling Center at 1601 Davis Street, Clearlake, CA
- Lake County Waste Solutions at 230 Soda Bay Road, Lakeport CA

Methodology:

- The Grand Jury interviewed employees of the Lake County Public Services Department.
- The Grand Jury interviewed private individuals responsible for recycling centers in the County.
- The Grand Jury reviewed information on State and County websites.

Findings:

- F 1. The County has no oversight on private recyclers except for the issuance of business licenses.
- F 2. It is important for people who wish to recycle to have a source of information that they can refer to find out which private locations are still operating. There is no central source for the public to find out which private recyclers are in operation.

Bibliography:

Cal Recycle www.calrecycle.ca.gov

Appendix A
Lake and Mendocino Counties Phone Book
Yellow Pages

Recycling Information

The Importance of Recycling

The following descriptions can help you decide how best to recycle.

**Automotive**

Includes: Motor oil, oil filters, antifreeze, and tires. Do not contaminate motor oil with water, antifreeze, brake fluid, engine cleaner, or fuel, etc. Must be recycled as Household Hazardous Waste.

**Cans**

Includes: Aluminum cans, aerosol cans (empty and without pressure), foil, bi-metals, and metal food trays. Labels are O.K. Clean only enough to prevent odors. NO scrap metal or appliances. NO cans with paint or hazardous waste.

**Cardboard & Chipboard**

Includes: Corrugated cardboard, cereal or cracker boxes, shoe boxes, milk cartons, egg cartons, juice boxes, and frozen food boxes. Flatten clean, corrugated cardboard or chipboard. Large boxes should be broken down to bundles no larger than 3' x 3' in size. Remove liners from cereal/cracker boxes.

**E-Waste: Batteries, Computers, Televisions, etc.**

E-Waste consists of items containing Lead, Mercury, or Cadmium, or items powered by batteries or a cord. For example: Televisions, Computer Monitors/Towers, and Batteries. Do not throw televisions and computer monitors in the garbage. They are banned from landfill disposal sites due to State Law. Check with your local garbage service to find out where to dispose of these items. Do not throw household batteries (including rechargeable and alkaline batteries) in the garbage. Separate them from other items, tape ends, and take them to the local hazardous waste collection facility. Always remember to remove batteries before discarding electronics.

**Glass**

Includes: Bottles and jars (metal lids go with metal recyclables). Recycle only clean, unbroken materials. Colors may be mixed (unless otherwise indicated), and labels may still be attached. NO ceramics, tableware, Pyrex, windows, light bulbs, or mirrors.

**Magazines, Newspapers, & Telephone Books**

Includes: Soft cover books, catalogs, etc. Newspaper inserts O.K. Keep dry. NO rubber bands, plastic bags, product samples, water, dirt, mold, or contamination.

**Mixed Paper**

Includes: Mixed office paper, white or colored envelopes, white or colored copy paper, computer paper, wrapping paper, shredded paper, brown "kraft" envelopes, and most junk mail that is not heavily glued or labeled. NO paper tissues, paper towels, waxed or laminated paper, foil-lined paper, etc. Do not include dirty or food-stained paper.

**Plastics**

Includes: Plastic bottles, jugs, transparent cartons, and plastic bags. Plastics are labeled from #1 to #7; check with your local recycling service to see which numbers it accepts. There is no need to remove labels or bands.

**Yard Debris & Compostables**

Includes: Grass clippings, branches, leaves, vegetable trimmings, and tree trunks (cut up, no stumps). NO rocks, dirt or animal waste. Some programs accept food scraps. Contact your local collection agency for more information.

Did you know that California law requires a waste diversion rate of 50 percent? That means recycling is very important; but there's more to it than just recycling your bottles, cans, and newspapers.

Some materials such as motor oil, batteries, and household toxics are forbidden in the trash and must be taken to a local collection center for disposal. If these items are not disposed of properly, they can contaminate everything they come into contact with.

Please consult the table on the next page to find out what to do with your recyclables. You'll feel good about helping the environment. For more information on recycling, call the Lake County Public Services Department at 707 263-1980 or the Mendocino County Recycling Hotline at 707 468-9704. www.recycling.co.lake.ca.us or www.mendocinorecycle.org

What is CRV?

Beverage containers labeled **CRV** (California Refund Value) can be redeemed at designated centers.

Non-CRV glass, metal and plastic beverage containers are accepted for recycling at most drop-off recycling locations.

For more information about buyback for bottles and cans, visit www.bottlesandcans.com, or call 1 800-RECYCLE (732-9253).

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

Household Toxins

Many products found in your home are potentially hazardous substances. Because of their chemical nature, they can poison, corrode, explode, or ignite easily when handled improperly. It is illegal to dispose of household toxins in the trash, storm drains, or onto the ground. The following are examples of these products:

Adhesives	Fuel	Oven Cleaners
Aerosol Sprays	Fungicides	Paint (all kinds)
Antifreeze	Glues	Paint Thinners
Auto Batteries	Household Cleaners	Pesticides
Batteries	Lighter Fluids	Pool Chemicals
Cosmetics	Medications	Solvents
Drain Openers	Nail Polish &	Syringes
Engine Cleaners	Polish Remover	Weed Killers
Fluorescent Lamps	Oil & Oil Filters	Wood Finishes

How Do I Properly Manage Household Toxins?

Reduce by purchasing only the amount you need.

Reuse the products by donating unused portions to friends or community organizations.

Recycle leftover household toxins that are recyclable and dispose of the others safely.

For more information on hazardous waste disposal, call CalRecycle at 800 732-9253, or contact your local collection agency.

CALL2RECYCLE RECHARGABLE BATTERY RECYCLING**LAKE & MENDOCINO COUNTIES DROP-OFF SITES:**

COAST TO COAST	300 N Main St	Fort Bragg	95437	707 964-2318
HOME DEPOT	350 N Orchard Av	Ukiah	95482	707 462-3009
MENDO MILL	5255 Old Hwy 53	Clearlake	95422	707 994-1014
US CELLULAR	1393 N State St	Ukiah	95482	707 468-0580

For more locations or information, visit www.call2recycle.org or call 877 646-4025.

Call2Recycle is dedicated to recycling used rechargeable batteries and old cell phones. Sites collect Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd), Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH), Nickel Zinc (Ni-ZN), Lithium Ion (Li-ion), and Small Sealed Lead (Pb) rechargeable batteries. Rechargeable batteries are the power source for cordless power tools, cellular and cordless phones, laptop computers, and camcorders. If your batteries are alka-line or non-rechargeable, please contact your local Household Hazardous Waste office.

Some of the items listed above may not be accepted by all recycling agencies. To verify whether a particular recycling agency accepts a specific item, please contact them directly at the phone numbers listed on the following page.

Continued Next Page

Recycling Information

Continued From Previous Page

Curbside Collection & Drop-Off

For more information on recycling, call the Lake County Public Services Department at 707 263-1980 or the Mendocino County Recycling Hotline at 707 468-9704
www.recycling.co.lake.ca.us
www.mendocinorecycle.org

										
	ALUMINUM & TIN CANS	CHIPBOARD & CARDBOARD	GLASS	MAGAZINES & NEWSPAPERS	MIXED PAPER	PLASTIC*	YARD DEBRIS	E-WASTE	MOTOR OIL & FILTERS	NOTES
ALBION Fort Bragg Disposal/ Waste Management Call707 964-9172	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection				
Albion Transfer Station 30180 Albion Ridge Rd 95410800 694-2722	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Fee charged for some drop-offs.
BOONVILLE Boonville Transfer Station 18851 Mountain View Rd 95415800 694-2722	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Fee charged for some drop-offs.
CASPAR Caspar Transfer Station 14000 Prairie Wy 95460 ..800 694-2722	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Fee charged for some drop-offs.
CLEARLAKE South Lake Recycling Center 16015 Davis St 95422707 994-8613	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location for fee	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	CRV available
FORT BRAGG Waste Management Recycling Center 219 Pudding Creek Rd 95437707 964-9172	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location for fee		Drop-off Location	CRV available Also accepts household batteries.
GUALALA South Coast Transfer Station 40855 Fish Rock Rd 95445800 694-2722	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Fee charged for some drop-offs.
LAKE COUNTY Lake County Waste Solutions^{††} 230 Soda Bay Rd Lakeport 95453707 234-6400	Curbside Collection Drop-off Location	Curbside Collection Drop-off Location	Curbside Collection Drop-off Location	Curbside Collection Drop-off Location	Curbside Collection Drop-off Location	Curbside Collection Drop-off Location	Curbside Collection Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Fee charged for some drop-offs.
LAYTONVILLE Laytonville Transfer Station 1825 Branscomb Rd 95454800 694-2722	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Fee charged for some drop-offs.
LOWERLAKE South Lake Refuse 16015 Davis Av Clearlake 95422707 994-8613	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	
MENDOCINO COUNTY HazMobile Household Hazardous Waste Collection Call707 468-9704									Drop-off Location	Accepts most types of Household Hazardous Waste. Call for drop-off location.
UKIAH Ukiah Waste Solutions & Ukiah Transfer Station 3151 Taylor Dr 95482707 234-6400	Curbside Collection Drop-off Location	Curbside Collection Drop-off Location	Curbside Collection Drop-off Location	Curbside Collection Drop-off Location	Curbside Collection Drop-off Location	Curbside Collection Drop-off Location	Curbside Collection	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	CRV available Fee charged for some drop-offs.
Ukiah Recycling Center 1080 Cunningham St 95482707 462-9399	Drop-off Location		Drop-off Location			Drop-off Location				CRV available Also accepts scrap metal.
WILLITS Solid Waste Services of Willits^{**} Call707 459-4778	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection	Curbside Collection				
Willits Transfer Station 350 Franklin St 95490707 459-0272	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	Drop-off for fee	Drop-off Location	Drop-off Location	CRV available
Appliance Recycling Jaco Environmental877 577-0510 PG&E Customers800 299-7573 www.jacoinc.net	Free curbside large appliance pick-up and utility company rebate. Not available in all areas. Please inquire with your local utility company for more details.									

*Recyclable plastic items are marked with a numbered triangle that specifies their category.

† Also serves Caspar, Comptche, Fort Bragg, Little River, & Mendocino.

†† Also serves Clearlake, Clearlake Oaks, Kelseyville, Lucerne, Upper Lake, & unincorporated northern Lake County.

* Also serves Middletown & unincorporated southern Lake County.

* Also serves Boonville, Gualala, Laytonville, Westport, & unincorporated northern Mendocino County.

Continued Next Page

Recycling Information

Continued From Previous Page

Composting

Closely considered the 4th "R" of recycling, compost (or rot) is nature's method of recycling. It is a managed decomposition of organic material such as yard trimmings and food scraps. This can be done at a home site or commercially at a facility. By developing a compost pile at home, a large percentage of your waste will never reach the landfill. Instead, composting turns your waste into a rich, quality organic matter that can be used to strengthen and protect your soil, flower beds and gardens.

Starting a Compost Pile

Establishing a compost pile in your backyard all begins with a bin or an open pile. Bins can be made using scraps of wood, chicken wire, snow fencing or old garbage cans. Manufactured bins can be purchased at local hardware or home improvement stores. They are available in many different styles based on their method of turning. These include hoops, cones, and stacking bins. Prices and sizes vary so take the time to consider which options best suit your needs.

Some cities and states have established guidelines as to how to set up a bin and what type is required for your area. Contact your city or county government for information about free composting workshops or even discounted or free composting bins. Or if you prefer to build your own, instructions can be found at CalRecycle's website:

www.calrecycle.ca.gov

WHAT IS INCLUDED

For a compost pile to be effective, the right conditions must be established for the development of organisms, fungus, bacteria and insects. The right combinations of these are required to properly breakdown the material. Developing these combinations is a lot like following a recipe. The easiest recipe for composting is equal amounts of green or wet materials (high in nitrogen) and brown or dry materials (high in carbon).

INGREDIENTS

Nitrogen:

This chemical element is produced when green (wet) materials such as lawn clippings, landscape trimmings, fruits and vegetables are included. The presence of pests and odors can be controlled by avoiding the inclusion of meat or dairy scraps and burying any food scraps deep within the pile.

Carbon:

This chemical element is produced when brown (dry) yard and garden material such as dry leaves, branches, straw, wood chips and sawdust are included. Large pieces need to be chopped or broken down to 12 inches or shorter.

Water:

Maintaining a continual presence of water and moisture will keep the composting process active. If the pile is too dry or too wet composting will stop. Proper moisture levels should be equal to a 40-60%. You can check your compost pile for the right amount of water by grabbing a handful of the pile and squeezing it. A few drops of water should drop from the material when you squeeze. Be sure and grab from the middle of the pile so you are not just measuring the moisture on the top. During warmer months, water will need to be applied frequently and during excessively rainy and colder months the

pile may need to be covered to keep it from becoming too wet. A properly constructed pile will drain off excess water and prevent it from becoming soggy.

Air:

Just like other organisms, bacteria and fungus need oxygen to live. Therefore, a steady rotation of the pile is required to ensure air is dispersed throughout the pile. Without the proper air, the pile will become too wet and cause the organisms to die. Decomposition will slow down and the pile will emit an unpleasant odor. A pitchfork can be used to rotate or "fluff" the pile or some manufactured bins include an automatic turn feature. Turning an existing pile can be as easy as re-piling it into a new pile.

An equally balanced amount of each material is required for your compost pile to remain active and odor free. Levels can be maintained by including an even amount of both green and brown compost each time more ingredients are added.

Ideal Compost

Along with the items listed above, the following compost is ideal to include:

- Eggshells
- Fruit and vegetable remains
- Cardboard
- Coffee grounds and tea leaves
- Nut shells
- Shredded newspaper
- Houseplants
- Animal manure

Compost to Avoid

The following compost should not be included as they release harmful substances, cause odors, attract unwanted pests or contain parasites harmful to humans.

- Coal or charcoal
- Dairy products
- Diseased plants

- Meat or fish scraps
- Fats, grease or oils
- Pet waste
- Chemically treated yard trimmings

NOTE: Many of the above items including those you should avoid can be included in city or county green waste compost bins. Oftentimes, any food scraps, food soiled paper, plants and other materials are accepted. Please check with your city and county government for a list of what can be included in green compost bins.

When Composting is Done

Composting promotes the development of microorganisms (bacteria and fungi) which break down organic matter, creating humus. Humus is a nutritionally rich substance that spreads nutrients to the soil and helps it retain moisture. Your compost pile becomes humus when it turns into a uniform, crumbly product that has a pleasant, earthy aroma and is dark brown in color. Some larger chunks may remain which can then be screened out and tossed or included in a new compost pile.

The ideal size of a compost pile is one cubic yard (three feet tall by three feet wide by three feet deep). Stop adding to the pile once it reaches this size.

For local composting information please contact:

LAKE COUNTY
UC Cooperative Extension
Master Gardener Program
 883 Lakeport Bl
 Lakeport 95453 707 263-6838
celake@ucanr.edu
http://celake.ucanr.edu/Master_Gardener

MENDOCINO COUNTY
Mendocino Solid Waste
Management Authority
 3200 Taylor Dr
 Ukiah 95482 707 468-9704
www.mendocycle.org



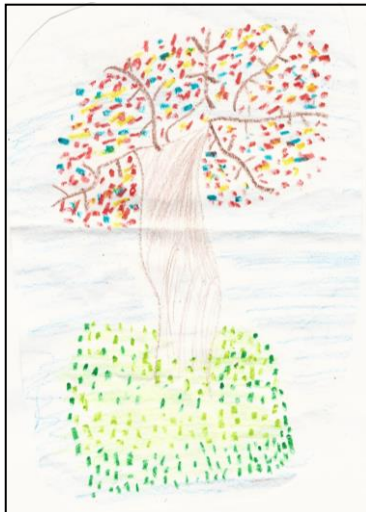
Grand Jury Appendix



Grand Jury Art Contest Winner Ages 6-8
Yasmina Galvin, Age 5



Grand Jury Art contest Winner Ages 6-8
Ellie Sabrina Galvin, age 8



Grand Jury
Art Contest Winner
Ages 9-12
Leyla Marks, Age 9



Grand Jury Art Contest Winner Ages 13-15
Nelsey Perz, Age 14



Grand Jury Art Contest Winner Ages 9-12
Amelie Zingone, Age 9



Superior Court of California, County of Lake
(707) 263-2374 x2282

CIVIL GRAND JURY APPLICATION

If you are selected to serve on the Lake County Grand Jury, during your twelve months on the panel, you will be asked to evaluate and investigate citizens' complaints, interview officials in charge of various County or City or Special District activities, and visit agencies and sites relevant to your area of interest and focus. You will also be asked to write reports based on these investigations, interviews, and visits.

1. Name: _____; Birth Date _____
 Last First Middle

Street Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ (home); _____ (office); _____ (cell);

E-Mail Address: _____; Fax No.: _____

California Driver's License or I.D. No.: _____

2. Supervisorial District: _____

3. Education: High School _____; Junior College _____; 4-Yr College Graduate : _____

Post-Graduate _____; Majors: _____; Degrees: _____

Licenses, Certifications, Credentials _____

4. Occupation(s), past & present: _____

5. How long in Lake County? _____; Are you retired now? _____

6. Special Skills/Knowledge: _____ Computer Processing; _____ IT; _____ Accounting;
_____ Budget Analysis; _____ Auditing; _____ Management;
_____ Interviewing; _____ Research; _____ Writing;
_____ Government Services; _____ Law Enforcement;
_____ Teaching; _____ Law; _____ Elected Office

7. Other Specialized Training: _____

LEGAL QUALIFICATIONS

- | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | I am a US Citizen and at least 18 years old. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | I have been convicted of malfeasance in office or a felony. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | I will have been a resident of Lake County for at least 1 year by next July 1. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | I am presently serving as an elected public officer. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | I am in possession of my natural faculties, of ordinary intelligence, of sound judgment, and fair character. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | I understand the spoken and written English language. |

8. List any organization(s) in which you are presently and/or have been active over the past five years.

Name of Organization	Purpose	Duties	Dates
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

9. Prior County Grand Jury Service: Yes _____; County: _____ Year(s): _____
Prior Federal Grand Jury Service: Yes _____; No: _____

10. An appointment to the Lake County Grand Jury generally demands attendance at Grand Jury plenary sessions, an assignment to two committees, regular attendance at committee meetings, and extensive investigative duties. If appointed to the Lake County Grand Jury, how many hours each week can you devote to these responsibilities? _____

11. Do you have a disability or illness which would have to be accommodated in order to allow your full participation in Grand Jury activities? _____ If yes, please explain. _____

12. Do you currently hold a civic elective position (school board, commission, etc.)? _____
If yes, please list the identity of the agency, position held and term of expiration date. _____

13. Why would you like to serve on the Grand Jury?: _____

14. What departments of County or City government or County/City services, if any, do you believe warrant closer scrutiny, and why?: _____

15. Are you or your spouse now, or have you ever been employed by a governmental body or agency, and if so in what capacity?: _____

Pursuant to Penal Code Section 903.2, I understand an investigation that will include a criminal record check will be conducted to help determine my eligibility to serve as a Grand Juror. I further understand that if my name is drawn as a Grand Juror or as an alternate, I may be required to attend grand jury training; if I am seated as a Grand Juror, I will be available to attend grand jury meetings and devote the required time to complete grand jury work for one year, from July through June. I further understand that if my name is drawn as an alternate, I will remain available for one year to serve as a member of the grand jury if called upon.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: _____
(Please insert date signed)

Signature: _____
(Please sign your name here)

For statistical records, please mark appropriate boxes.

Age Range; specifically: ☐ 18-25 ☐ 26-34 ☐ 35-44 ☐ 45-54 ☐ 55-64 ☐ 65-74 ☐ 75 and over

Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Race or Ethnicity: ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native
☐ Asian ☐ Black or African American
☐ Hispanic/Latino ☐ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
☐ White (Anglo) ☐ Other Race or Ethnicity (Please state _____)
☐ Decline to Answer

Place of Residence by Supervisorial District:

☐ District 1 ☐ District 2 ☐ District 3 ☐ District 4 ☐ District 5

Please return application to: Lake County Superior Court

Lakeport Division
255 N. Forbes St.
Lakeport, CA 95453

Clearlake Division
7000 A South Center Dr.
Clearlake, CA 95422

Lake County Civil Grand Jury Complaint Guidelines

Receipt of all complaints will be acknowledged by mail. A complaint does not necessarily result in an investigation or issuance of a report. A report will only be issued in the Grand Jury's formal, final report published at the end of its term, usually June 30th. You will not necessarily receive any further communications from the Grand Jury.

The jurisdiction of the Civil Grand Jury includes the following:

- Consideration of evidence of misconduct by public officials within the County of Lake,
- Inquiry into the condition and management of jails within the County,
- Investigation and reports on the operations, accounts and records of the officers, departments or functions of county and cities including special districts created by state law.

Some complaints are not suitable for Jury action. For example, the Grand Jury does not have jurisdiction over judicial performance, actions of the court or pending litigation. Grievances of this nature must be resolved through the established judicial system. The Grand Jury has no jurisdiction or authority to investigate federal or state agencies or private enterprise. Only causes of action occurring within Lake County are eligible for review. Except in rare cases when a Grand Jury determines to "roll over" an investigation from one year to the next, each year's Grand Jury begins its investigative/oversight process anew.

PROCESS FOR FILING A COMPLAINT OR REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION

Any private citizen, governmental employee or officer may ask the Lake County Civil Grand Jury to conduct an investigation. This complaint must be in writing and is treated by the jury as confidential. The Grand Jury will determine whether the complaint is suitable for jury action. Any request for investigation must include detailed evidence supporting the complaint or request for investigation. If the Grand Jury believes that the evidence is valid and sufficient to support the complaint, a detailed investigation may be held. The written complaint should cover the following points:

- Specifically who or what agency is the complaint against
- What is the nature of the complaint
- What action was improper or illegal
- When and where did the incident(s) occur
- What were the consequences of this action
- Why/how. Attach relevant documents and correspondence with dates.
- Sign form. Unsigned complaints may receive less or no attention.

Additional information about the Grand Jury is also available on the jury's website:
http://www.co.lake.ca.us/government/grand_jury.htm

Rev. 12/10/14



COUNTY OF LAKE
LAKE COUNTY GRAND JURY
P.O. BOX 1078
KELSEYVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95451

COMPLAINT FORM

WHEN COMPLETED – MAIL THIS FORM TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS
ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE GRAND JURY ARE CONFIDENTIAL

This complaint should be submitted after all attempts to resolve a situation have been explored unsuccessfully.

Person or agency your complaint is about

Name and Title

Organization

Address
(707) -

Telephone

My complaint is: (be as precise as possible, providing dates, times, and names of individuals involved. Describe more specific instances instead of making broad statements. Attach any available photographs, correspondence or documentation which pertains to this complaint. Use extra sheets as necessary.)

Other persons or agencies you have contacted about this complaint.

Describe the action you wish the Grand Jury to take.

Using additional sheets, provide any further information you feel may be helpful in an investigation.
COMPLAINANT:

Name (please print)

(707) -
Telephone

Address

City

CA -
State Zip Code

Signature

Tuesday, April 17, 2007
Date

Your confidentiality will be vigorously protected. All complaints will be acknowledged promptly.
Please read additional instructions attached.

COUNTY OF LAKE LAKE COUNTY GRAND JURY FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING CITIZENS COMPLAINTS

Anyone may ask the Grand Jury to investigate a complaint. The Grand Jury will review all complaints received from the public and, when appropriate investigate those complaints which contain allegation of wrong doing or misconduct. While the Grand Jury will accept and review each complaint this is no assurance that the matter will be officially investigated or any formal action taken. The following procedures govern the submission and processing of such complaints.

A formal complaint should be prepared after all attempts to correct a situation have been explored unsuccessfully.

All complaints should be submitted in writing, dated and signed by the complainant. Anonymous complaints are usually given less weight by the Grand Jury in deciding what to investigate.

Complaints may be submitted by letter, but this complaint form is preferred. Upon request, members of the Grand Jury will assist citizens with the preparation of the complaint form.

Content of a complaint

Whether or not the standard complaint form is used, the following information should be included if at all possible:

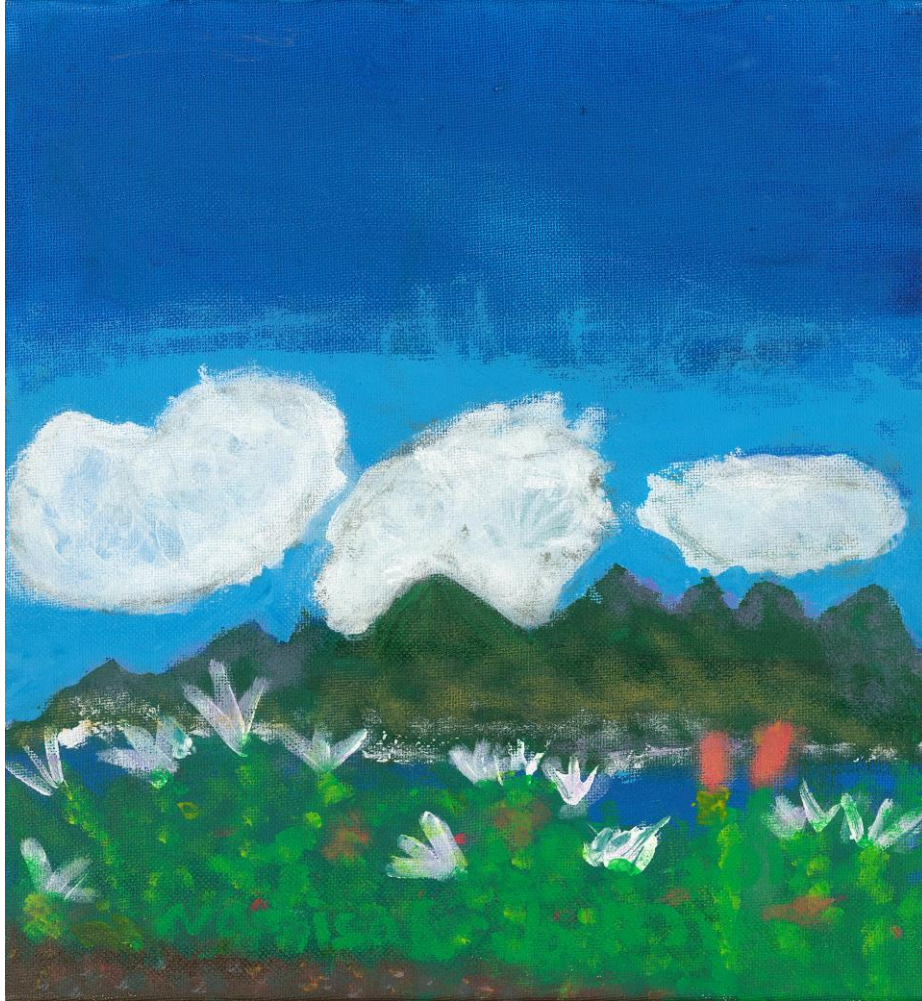
- Name, address and telephone number of the individual or organization the complaint is against.
- If the complaint is against an individual in an organization, include the individual's title or position in the organization.
- Describe the problem as clearly as possible.
- Be as concise as possible, including dates, times, and names of individuals involved.
- Cite specific examples as opposed to broad general accusations.
- Attach any available evidence such as correspondence, documentation, photographs, etc..
- Include the name, address and telephone number of the person preparing the complaint. Please state all efforts or action taken to resolve the complaint up to this time. All materials, photos, statements, documents or other evidence will be retained for confidentiality by the Grand Jury.

Confidentiality

The Grand Jury is forbidden by law to release any information about a complainant or about any investigation that may be in progress. The confidentiality of the person making the complaint is rigorously protected.

The Grand Jury will study each complaint submitted. Each complaint will be acknowledged by letter as soon as possible after it is received. After studying the complaint, the Grand Jury will determine if further investigation should be undertaken. In any event, the complainant will be advised of the Grand Jury's decision.

The Grand Jury may call on the complainant for further information or clarification of the complaint.



Grand Jury Art Contest First Prize Winner Ages 6-8
Nafisa Jamil, Age 8

Lake County Grand Jury
5250 Second Street
Kelseyville, CA 95451
(707) 279-8619 or Fax (707) 279-1983

Obtain complaint Forms online at:
www.co.lake.ca.us/residents/law/complaints.htm

Review current or past Grant Jury Final Reports
And department or agency responses online at
www.co.lake.ca.us/Government/Boards/Grand_Jury.htm